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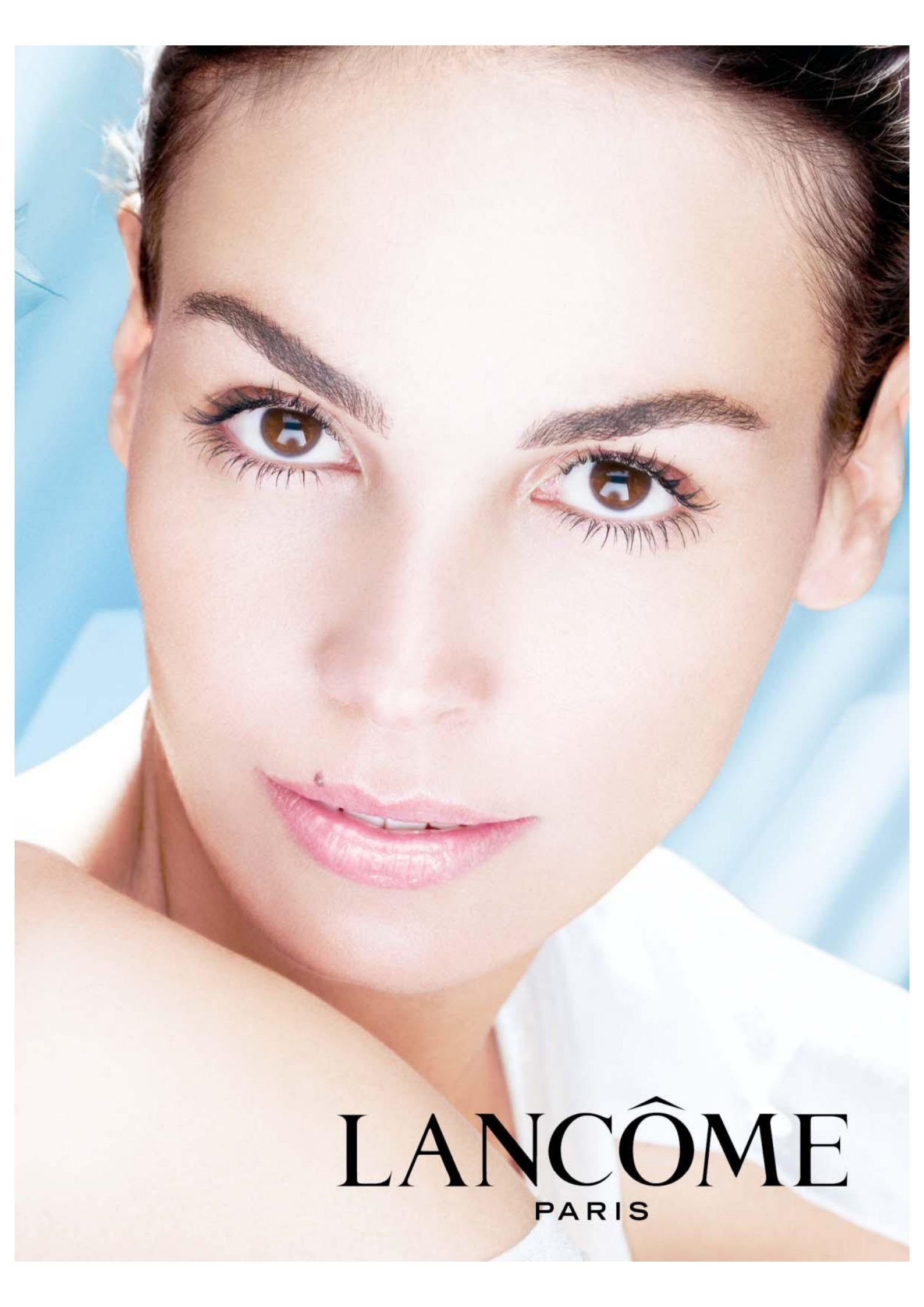
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A woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a dark blue, draped, sleeveless dress, is crouching on a sandy beach. She is adorned with a multi-strand pearl necklace, a long single-strand pearl necklace, a pearl earring, and a large, ornate diamond ring. Her right hand is raised near her face, and her left hand is resting on the sand. The background shows a blue sky with clouds and the ocean waves in the distance. The lighting is bright, creating a high-contrast scene.

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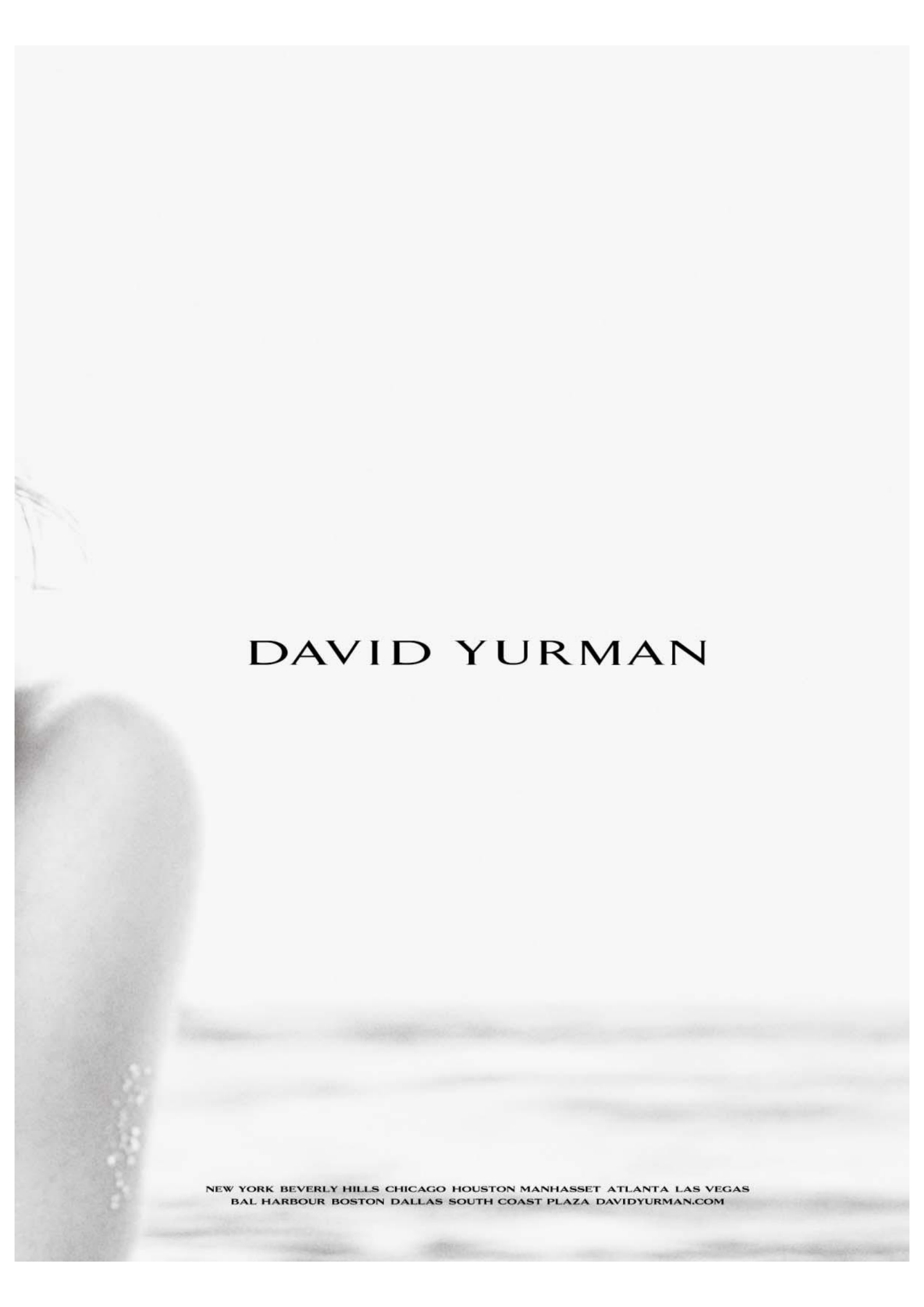
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# MAY

ELLE'S guide to an eventful month. By Jed Dickson

| SUNDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | MONDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | TUESDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------|----------|
|  <p><b>4</b></p> <p>Robert De Niro will be cheesed that you waited until the final day to attend his <b>Tribeca Film Festival</b>, but I don't blame you; now you can see all the award winners and the "Best of the Fest." <a href="http://tribecafilmfestival.org">tribecafilmfestival.org</a></p> <p><b>6</b></p> <p>The Sundance Channel's <b>Big Ideas for a Small Planet</b> series continues tonight with "Fashion," an episode exploring inventive ways of greening up the industry, from sustainable fabrics to earth-friendly dry cleaning. 9 P.M. EST</p> |  <p><b>1</b></p> <p>Whether you're a fan of deco, modern, or nouveau, the <b>Los Angeles Modernism Show &amp; Sale</b> has the art for you this weekend, as the best of twentieth-century design and decor is on display. <a href="http://lmodernism.com">lmodernism.com</a></p> <p><b>9</b></p> <p>60 Minutes? Please. <b>Mike Wallace</b>—the prominent CBS news-mag correspondent—has now logged more than 47,000,000 of them, as he celebrates his ninetieth birthday today.</p> |  <p><b>3</b></p> <p>Gothamites dashing out for bagels with a schmear can make their mornings more altruistic by joining the <b>11th annual EIF Revlon Run/Walk for Women</b> benefiting cancer research, outreach programs, and counseling. <a href="http://revlonrunwalk.com">revlonrunwalk.com</a></p> <p><b>10</b></p> <p>Today is designated <b>Pangea Day</b>, when international cities link up for a global video-conference—with the aid of <b>Cameron Diaz, Goldie Hawn, J.J. Abrams</b>, and more—to promote cultural understanding through film and music. <a href="http://pangeaday.org">pangeaday.org</a></p> |  <p><b>7</b></p> <p>"As long as a woman can look 10 years younger than her own daughter, she is perfectly satisfied." —Oscar Wilde</p> <p>Wishing all moms a highly satisfactory <b>Mother's Day</b>.</p> <p><b>14</b></p> <p><i>The Time of My Life</i><br/>WRITERS ON THE HEARTS OF THE MATTER, ROMANCE, AND DEARHEART OF THE FIRM<br/>—Julia Roberts</p> <p><b>19</b></p> <p>Heading the list of guilty reading pleasures for May is <b>The Time of My Life</b> (Doubleday), essays by 17 writers, edited by Rob Spillman, on the heartbreaking hormonal hurricane that is prom night.</p> <p><b>22</b></p> <p>One of Spain's most revered contemporary artists gets his first retrospective at an American museum, as the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, presents the exquisite realist works of <b>Antonio López García</b>. <a href="http://mfa.org">mfa.org</a></p> <p><b>25</b></p> <p>Sombody's entitled to a good shagging today. Yeah, baby, yeah! Happy forty-fifth birthday, <b>Mike Myers</b>.</p> <p><b>26</b></p> <p>"True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve all others at whatever cost." —<b>Arthur Ashe Memorial Day</b> observed.</p> <p><b>27</b></p> <p>Chicago's Steppenwolf offers up a slice of noir for the Now Generation with <b>Dead Man's Cell Phone</b>, a play from one of the country's leading playwrights, Pulitzer Prize finalist <b>Sarah Ruhl</b>. <a href="http://steppenwolf.org">steppenwolf.org</a></p> <p><b>28</b></p> <p>Take a break from your composting, recycling, and solar-powered vacuuming and find even more smart ways to save our planet by checking out <b>GreenYour.com</b>, a site loaded with eco-fabulous ideas.</p> <p><b>29</b></p> <p>Who has more cultural relevance, <b>Harrison Ford</b> or Mr. Potato Head? The debate will be settled this month, as both Mr. Ford's latest <b>Indiana Jones</b> flick and Mr. Head's Tasters of the Lost Ark doll are released.</p> <p><b>31</b></p> <p>M as in May, as in movies, as in <b>The Midnight Meat Train</b>, a new film rated R for "strong bloody gruesome violence, grisly images involving nudity" and starring...<b>Brooke Shields</b>. I, for one, am intrigued.</p> |          |        |          |

Tribeca Film Festival: © 2005 Brian Palmer; De Niro, Grenier, and Rosenthal: Peter Kramer/Getty Images; chair: Estelle LaVerne, courtesy of TFTM; Warhol: L.A. Modern Auctions; Linney: Michael Lucciano/FilmMagic.com; Indiana Jones: courtesy of the Everett Collection; Gorgeously Green: courtesy of HarperCollins; Lopez: courtesy of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Shields: Kevin Mazur/WireImage.com; Dead Man's Cell Phone: Sandro Steppenwolf; cake: Jeffrey Coolidge/Getty Images; Myers: Frank Micoletta/Getty Images; flowers: Getty Images; The Time of My Life: courtesy of Doubleday





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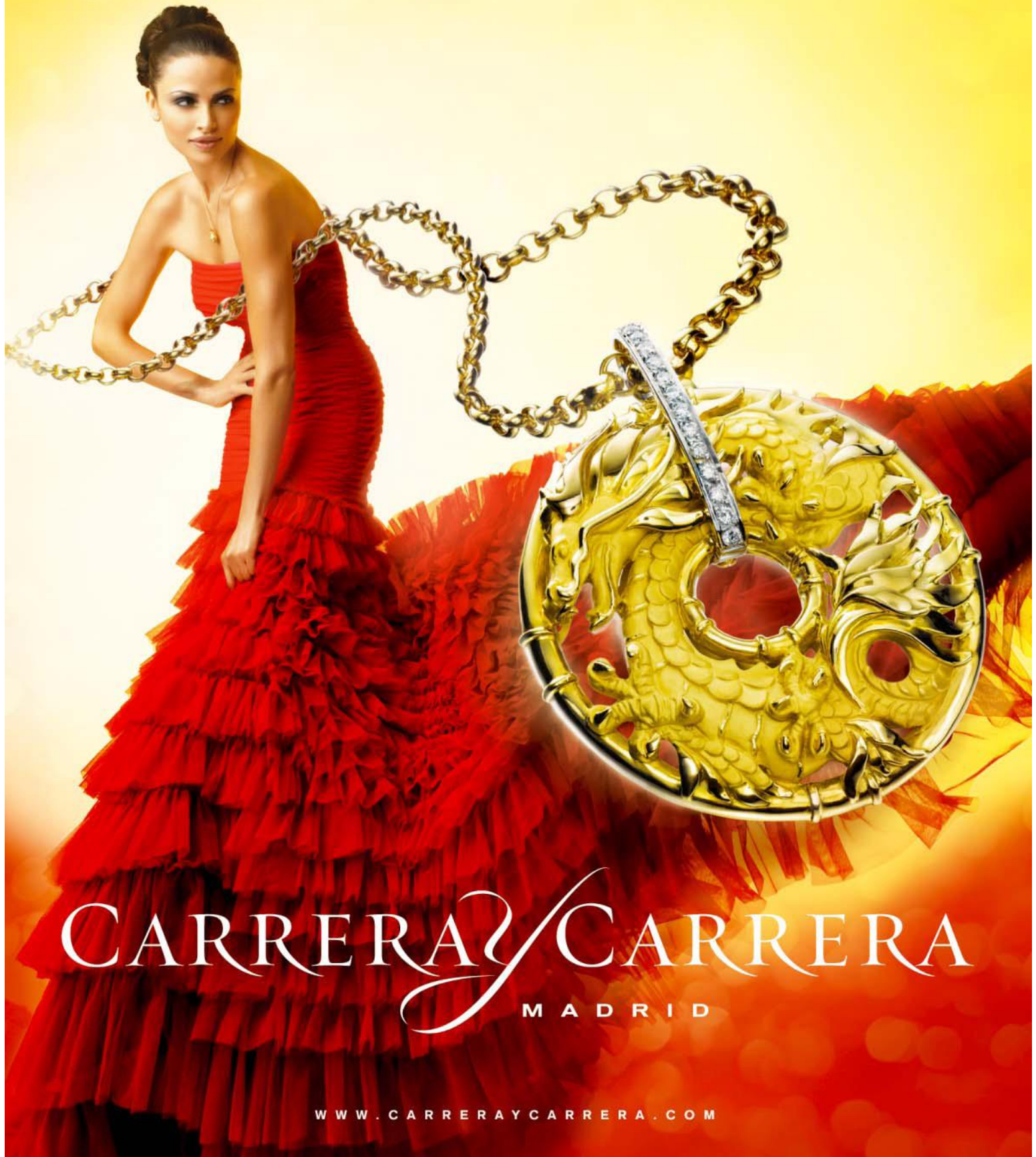
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A woman with dark hair styled in a bun, wearing a vibrant red strapless dress with multiple ruffled tiers, is the central figure. She is holding a large, ornate gold pendant that features a detailed dragon or mythical creature design. The pendant is suspended from a thick gold chain. The background is a warm, golden-yellow gradient with soft bokeh light effects. The overall aesthetic is one of luxury and elegance.

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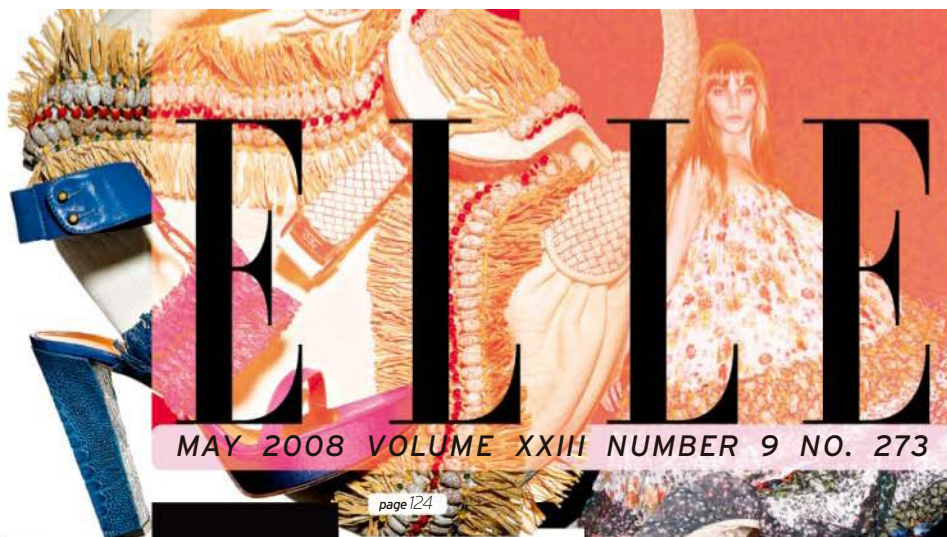
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# Dior





MAY 2008 VOLUME XXIII NUMBER 9 NO. 273

## ON THE COVER

109, 141, 279

### SUMMER FASHION PREVIEW!

300 hot-weather ideas: 220+ dresses, shoes, swimsuits, bags, and more

208

### ROLL-OUT-OF-BED BEAUTIFUL HAIR

Kate Hudson shares the secret to her naturally glamorous locks!

210

### GREEN STARS

The 35 best natural beauty products ever!

226

### SOFTER, SMOOTHER SKIN!

The no-prescription beauty breakthrough: Nanotechnology. By JOANNE CHEN

232

### DRINK MUCH?

Are juice fasts a smart way to lose weight—or a fast track to an eating disorder? MAGGIE BULLOCK hits the bottle

260

### OBSCESS MUCH?

CATHI HANAUER reflects on an eco-friendly lifestyle that became a dysfunction

280

### MADONNA OPENS UP TO SIMON DOONAN

On kids and Guy, Malawi, and staying fabulous forever. Photographed by TOM MUNRO

page 158

page 146



page 114

294

### THE GREEN ISSUE: MODEL CITIZENS

Finally! Your favorite designers (Calvin, Donna, Ralph, Michael, and more) debut eco-chic looks for Earth Pledge. Photographed by DANIEL GABBAY

## FASHION

72

### STYLE A TO ZEE

ELLE Creative Director JOE ZEE talks green trends and taboos

98

### GOODWILL HUNTING

NINA GARCIA comes to grips with sustainable fashion and brings a few new finds home for the family

106

### WHAT TO WEAR?

Our Fashion Know-It-All answers your questions

109

### ELLE FASHION: THE LOOK, TRENDS, AND JEWELS

Sweet and chic Liberty prints...denim with an edge...exotic nature from Louis Vuitton...and more

131

### ELLE FASHION: NEWS

Inhabit's new organic cotton T-shirt line...My Bag Cares, the newest eco-conscious tote...Benetton's "Africa Works" campaign...and more

CONTINUED ON PAGE 40



page 294

page 280



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page 104



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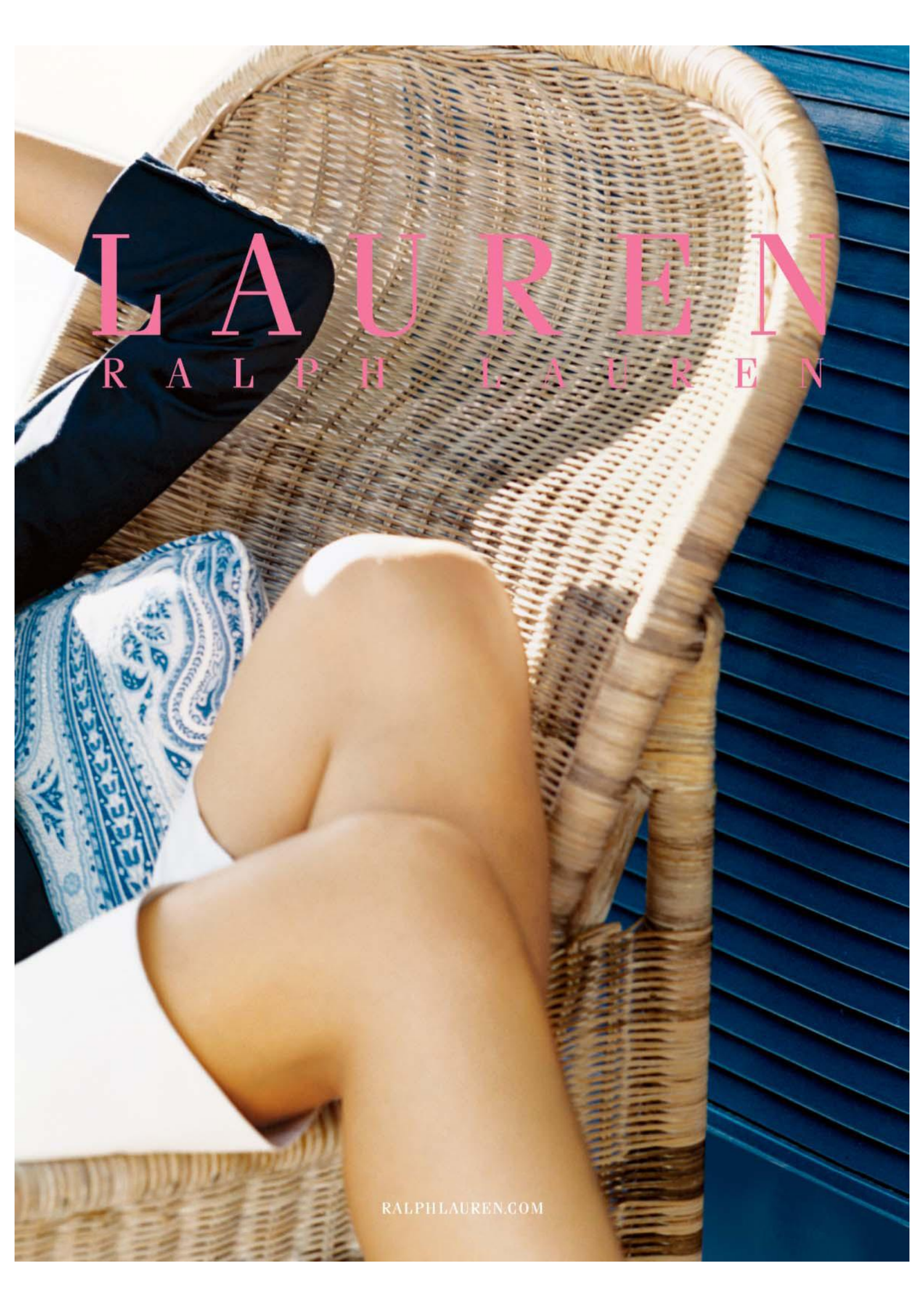
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page 104: © Peter Turnley/Corbis; page 114: Marcio Madeira/Corbis; page 124: Svend Lindbaeck; page 134: Danielle St. Laurent; page 146: Marcio Madeira; page 158: Marcio Madeira; page 260: Tom Munro; page 280: Tom Munro; page 294: Daniel Gabbay









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MAY 2008 VOLUME XXIII NUMBER 9 NO. 273

page 312

FASHION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

page 203

page 116

page 330

page 184

Page 116: Marcio Madeira; page 163: Matt Holyoak; page 184: Danielle St. Laurent; page 190: courtesy of Jesse Kamm; page 203: Ralf Pülmanns; page 212: Matthew Brookes; page 330: © Rankin/Icon International

134

## ELLE FASHION: NEW DESIGNERS

Frank Tell offers a sneak peek at his mod sculptural masterpieces for fall...Gina Ferraraccio turns dowdy do-gooder design on its head with her debut line of vegan statement shoes

138

## IN EXCESS

Swiss watchmaker Ebel's '80s cult classic, the Beluga, is reinvented for spring, captivating a brand-new kind of fast crowd

184

## ECO AID

Banana Republic embarks on an eco-crusade...Phillip Lim fights global warming...the Anya Hindmarch tote that put green fashion on the map...and more

194

## ONE LOVE

Seven NYC women are doing their part to spark positive change in Africa

198

## KING GIORGIO

GIORGIO ARMANI extols the virtues of staying fit, lounging at sunset, and, of course, high fashion

308

## BALANCING ACT

Get a preview of our picks for fall: slouchy must-have bags and sexy jewel-tone heels. Photographed by SIVAN LEWIN

312

## SWEPT AWAY

Eco-icon Shalom Harlow mirrors nature's breathtaking beauty in voluminous layers and a few sustainable fabrics.

Photographed by MATTHEW BROOKES

## FEATURES

94

## STYLE DISPATCH

LEANNE SHAPTON soaks up the literary charms of the quaint village of Hay-on-Wye, Wales (aka Town of Books)

102

## MR. SUSTAINABILITY

Meet ELLE's Green Hunk of 2008, NFL linebacker DHANI JONES. Who says fighting global warming isn't hot?

104

## HEATING UP

Guest editor LAURIE DAVID wants climate change to be the reason you pull the lever at the polls in November

163

## ELLE INTELLIGENCE

From *Narnia* royalty to a lead role in *Prince Caspian*, Ben Barnes takes center stage...Helen Hunt strikes back in her own indie flick...Mick Jagger rocks out in Martin Scorsese's new film *Shine a Light*...and more

CONTINUED ON PAGE 49

page 308

page 190





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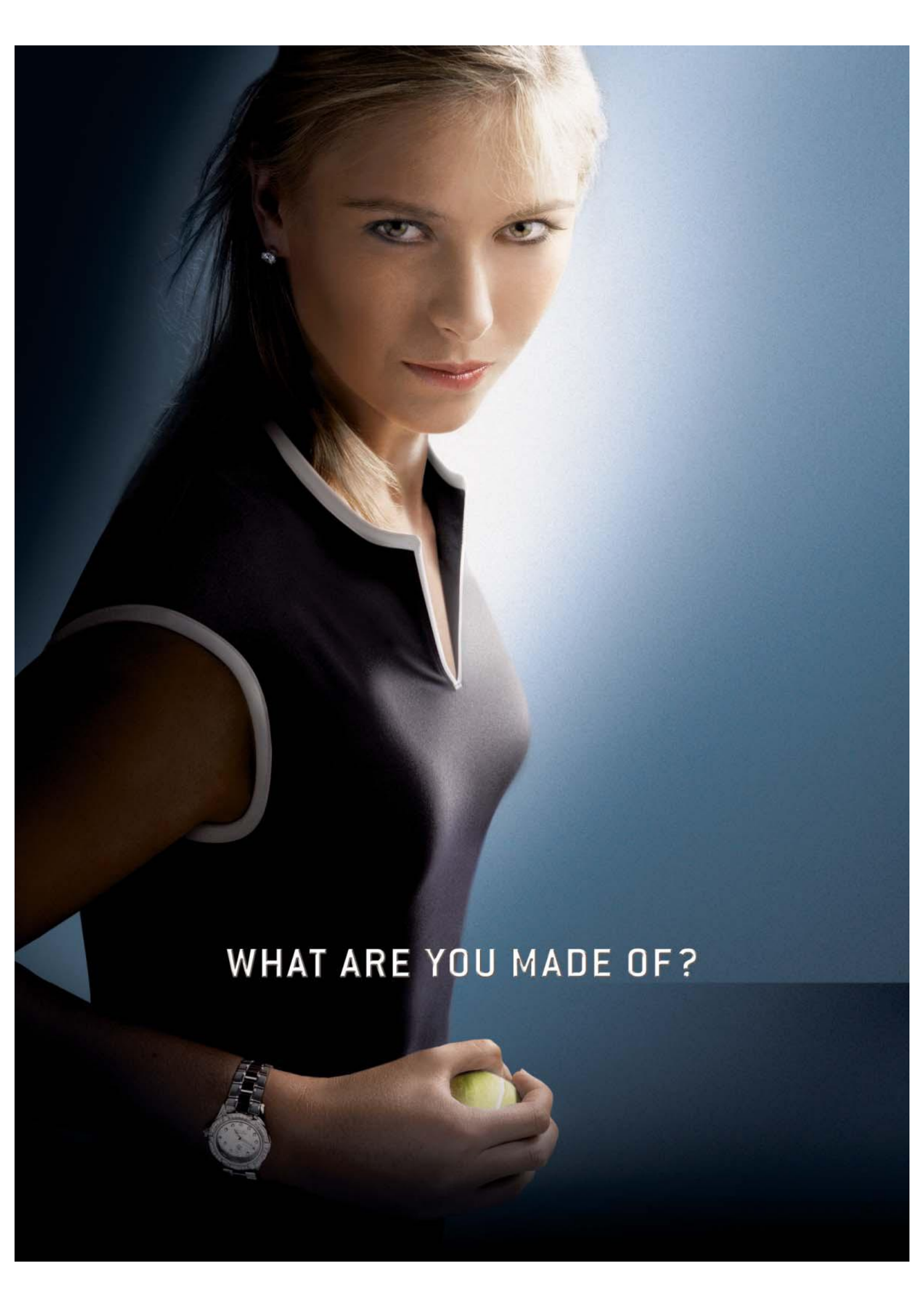
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A woman with blonde hair, wearing a dark navy blue polo shirt with white trim on the collar and sleeves, is looking directly at the camera. She is holding a green apple in her right hand. On her left wrist, she wears a Rolex Oyster Perpetual Datejust watch with a fluted bezel and a metal bracelet. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue gradient.

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page 205

FEATURES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 40



page 198



page 102

180

## TRANSFORMER

America's most unlikely superhero, Robert Downey Jr., opens up to JOSEPH HOOPER

245

## ELLE LIVING: ENTERTAINING/TRAVEL/FOOD/DESIGN

Chef Naomi Pomeroy solves the ethical eater's big dilemma...production at the Clos Apalta Winery is green down to its roots...low-impact design from our favorite decorating faithfuls...and more

252

## ELLE'S 2008 GREEN AWARDS

The people, products, and concepts that put their energy in the right place

266

## THE BELIEVERS

ANDREA TODD meets "Anna," a former undercover FBI informant, and unveils the far fringes of the environmental movement

276

## ASK E. JEAN

Relationship hell? E. JEAN CARROLL to the rescue!

330

## ASHTON, UNPUNK'D

Ashton Kutcher dishes to ANDREW GOLDMAN about life, love, and his first time



page 180

## BEAUTY, HEALTH & FITNESS

205

### BEAUTY NEWS

206

### SPOTLIGHT ON

Argan oil, an antioxidant that actually helps the environment. Plus: Top five paraben-free lotions

224

### IN A LATHER

Can a chemical-free shampoo work as well as the average sudsmaker? MEGAN DEEM dons her lab coat to find out

230

### BUSINESS MODELS

Model turned actress? Try model turned entrepreneur. By ROOPIKA NAYAR

238

### BEAUTY IT LIST

240

### THE LOST BOY

RACHAEL COMBE explores the medical mysteries surrounding autism research

## IN EVERY ISSUE

- 22 CALENDAR
- 62, 66 MASTHEADS
- 68, 70 EDITOR'S LETTER
- 78 MAIL BONDING
- 84, 90 CONTRIBUTORS
- 141 ELLE SHOPS
- 325 SHOPPING GUIDE
- 327 HOROSCOPE
- 328 NUMEROLOGY

page 226



page 238



Madonna wears a silk dress and lambskin gloves from Chanel, with a felt hat from Stephen Jones Millinery and earrings from Neil Lane Jewelry. For details, see Shopping Guide. To get her makeup look, try Teint Idole Ultra foundation in Ivoire, Color Design Eye Shadow in Gaze, Artliner in Noir, High Définition mascara in Black, Color Design Blush in Model Mocha, and Color Fever Shine in Blazing, all by Lancôme. Photographed by Tom Munro. Styling by Arianne Phillips. Hair by Andy Lecompte for Sunsilk at Solo Artists. Makeup by Gina Brooke at J Artists Management.



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This month: Go green in style at ELLE.com

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CONSCIENCE

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mineral makeup,  
organic beauty  
products, and more



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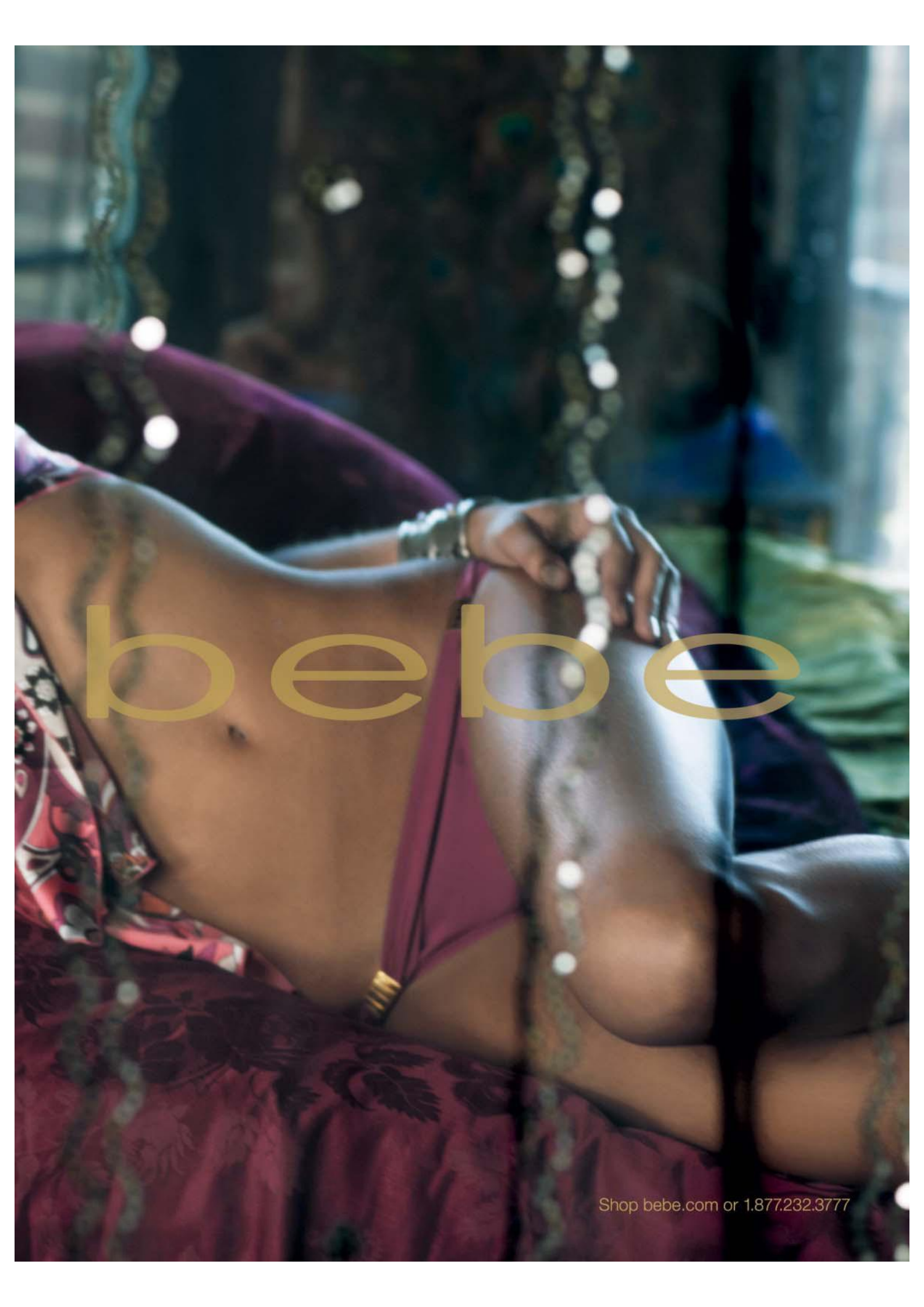
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For more information, please visit [biologie.com](http://biologie.com).

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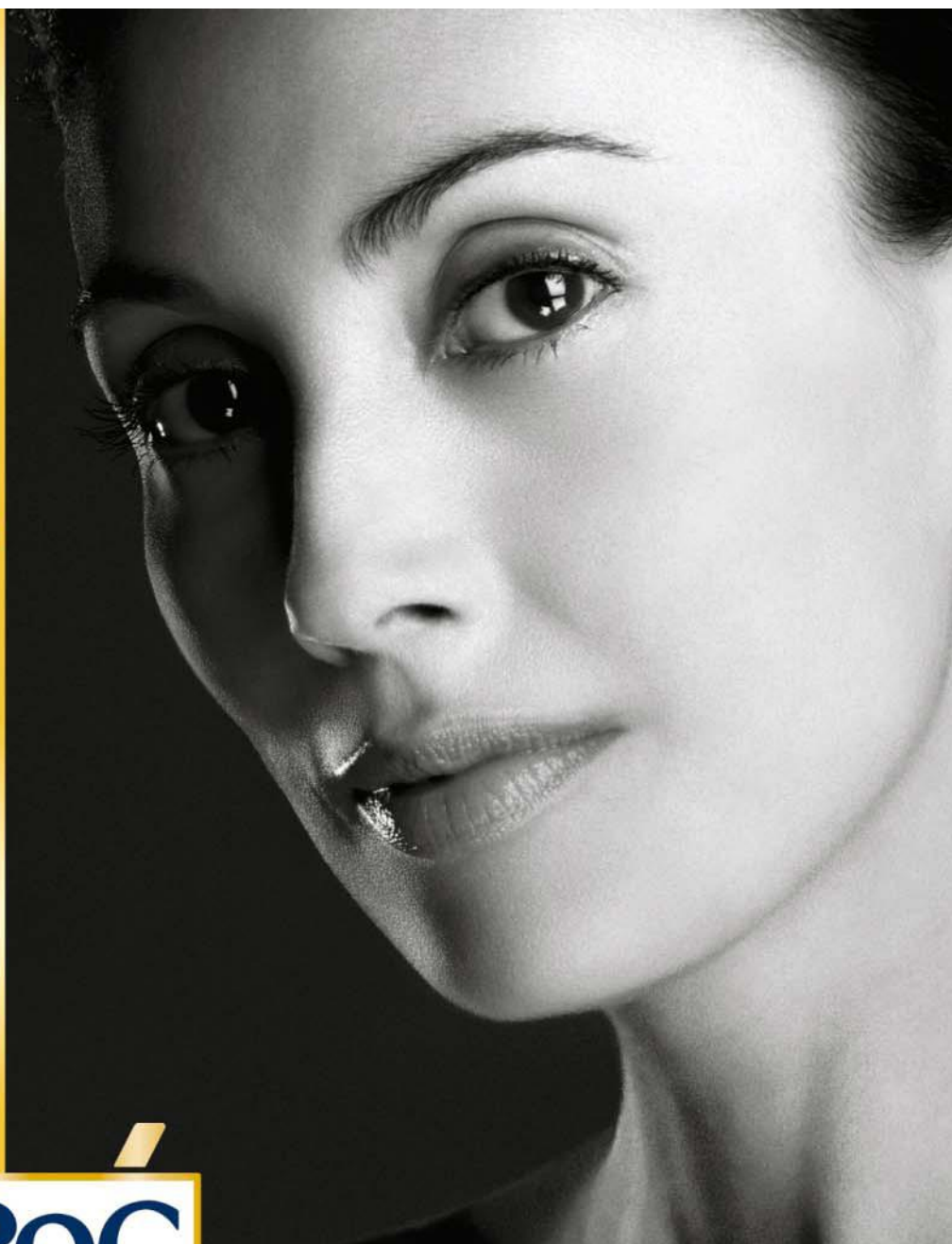
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**This month:** Our guide to vintage shopping, green style videos, and more

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ELLE.com's Pete Miszuk finds the best-dressed girls on every corner.



## GOOD NEWS

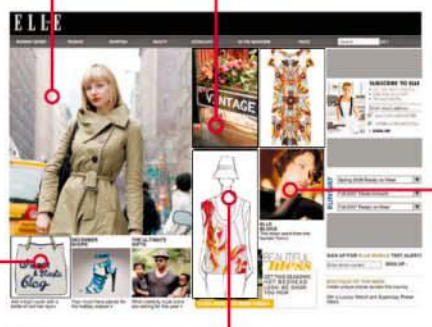


Check out eco-conscious Daily Reports, plus style updates from our new green bloggers.



## VINTAGE VANTAGE

The ultimate global guide to stylish and gently used: the hottest spots to hit in New York, London, Los Angeles, and beyond



## AND THE T-SHIRT GOES TO...



The winning entry from our design-a-shirt-with-Thakoon contest: Look for it this month at kirnazabete.com.



## IN REEL TIME

The latest 60-Second Style and Beauty Expert videos, plus behind-the-scenes at Madonna's cover shoot

Street pictures: Pete Miszuk; dress: courtesy of net-a-porter.com; bag: courtesy of Bag, Borrow, or Steal; Harlow: Ben Chang; shopping bag: courtesy of Lulu Guinness



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A close-up portrait of a woman with light blue eyes and dark, smoky eye makeup. She is wearing a brown leather jacket and holding a small, light green cylindrical object in her gloved hand. A white chain with a crown emblem is draped across her face. In the foreground, a large, clear glass perfume bottle with a silver label is visible. The label features the Prada crest and the text 'PRADA MILANO DAL 1913'.

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Model is wearing I'm Indi-a Mood for Love on hands  
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# THE DAILY PLANET

New York Fashion Week was, as ever, fun, exciting, filled with great collections from Derek Lam, Brian Reyes, and Carolina Herrera, and a so-chic Calvin Klein dinner (following their *beautiful* show) at the Beatrice Inn, where I was seated next to the luminous Julianne Moore, who gave me a serious piece of parenting advice that I immediately implemented. And of course there was the most starry-star glittering event I've ever attended, Gucci's party with Madonna for her organization Raising Malawi. Watching Madonna talk onstage, I had the experience that many journalists have written about: She seems so petite, so beautiful, so, well, human. It was a great moment, listening to her describe how she went to Malawi herself, learning on the ground about the orphaned and AIDS-afflicted population, and acknowledge her own power as a singular kind of individual able to actually effect change in a major way. Particularly when it comes to Madonna, I think we expect her to be sort of superhuman, all icon. But as the always amusing Simon Doonan reveals in his interview this month, she is an intelligent, cultured mom who likes to go shopping incognito with her daughter ("Force of Nature," page 280). Another great moment that night: I fulfilled my lifelong ambition to meet Tom Cruise. Gorgeous.

But the best thing that happened to me during Fashion Week was receiving a one-line e-mail from my sister: "Steve is home and safe." My 22-year-old nephew, a marine, had been in Iraq for months, and for several weeks was on a secret detail during which no one in his family could know his location or reach him or receive any details about him at all. For everyone in my family—most obviously for his parents, siblings, and wife—concern for Steve's safety has been the music playing in the background as we go through our daily lives, soldiering on in the quotidian while he literally soldiered. It is dread, plain and simple, that for us, for now, has been momentarily relieved. But it has made me even more mindful of what Eastern types refer to as

the connectedness of everything; about how the war, and my family, are bound up in America's relationship to the Middle East and to oil, which is really, fundamentally, about how we use our resources and to what end.

This is ELLE's third Green Issue, and I'm happy to say that with each year my job gets easier, as more and more designers and companies and all of you—readers—become more sophisticated and knowledgeable about environmental issues. And the stories have gotten more interesting: Contributing writer Rachael Combe reports on the debate over whether the autism epidemic is caused by genetics or the environment ("The Lost Boy," page 240), while Andrea Todd examines the eco-extremist movement through the story of a teenage FBI informant who infiltrated its far fringes, and considers how our passions for a cause can lead us down a crooked path ("The Believers," page 266). Green fashion has come so far in just two years—back then, all you could really find were organic cotton jeans and tees—so we're excited to publish 16 pages of original designs by some of the biggest names in American fashion, from Donna Karan to Ralph Lauren, thanks to Barneys New York and Earth Pledge, which staged a green fashion show last February featuring some of the top models in the business.

Returning as our guest editor is Laurie David, a producer of the Movie That Changed Our Life, *An Inconvenient Truth*, and founder of Stopglobalwarming.org. Laurie has been beating the climate-change-awareness drum as long as anyone, and I usually come away from our conversations feeling a little guilty but also inspired to make a few adjustments. She helped us put together our second annual Green Awards (page 256), which features our favorite cage rattlers of the environmental movement, from Brad Pitt for his Make It Right project, which develops affordable green homes in New Orleans' Ninth Ward, to ABC's Sam Champion, one of the first weathermen who dared utter the phrase "global warming."

Finally, I want to point out that the issue you're holding in your hands is printed on 10 percent postconsumer recycled paper, which we couldn't have pulled off without the help of Aveeno. Thank you!

*Isabel Reyes*

Left: Tom Munro; right: Daniel Gabbay

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# MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

When Laurie David stopped by the office this past winter to start planning this issue, she spotted a plastic water bottle on a desk, held it up, and said, "This is what we need to talk about." Every year, she told us, Americans toss more than 20 billion empty plastic bottles into landfills. Never mind that these bottles are made from petroleum; plastic is especially nasty for the environment because it takes eons to biodegrade and the particles eventually enter the food chain. Given the fashion industry's love affair with bottled water, we joined forces with Sigg, the 100-year-old Swiss maker of supersleek, reusable aluminum bottles, to try to make a tiny dent in our collective plastic consumption. We sent bottles to fashion's elite and requested that they personalize them for an auction benefiting Laurie's organization, Stopglobalwarming.org.

The cool part: You can own one! **To bid, visit [ELLE.com/auction](http://ELLE.com/auction) starting April 14 at 7 P.M. EST** (and ending 7 P.M. on April 24); preview them all starting April 8. With any hope, by next year we'll see one like it in every model's bag.—ALEX POSTMAN

**Designer water:** 1) Donna Karan: D; 2) Zac Posen: J; 3) Sienna and Savannah Miller: F; 4) Phillip Lim: M; 5) Peter Som: E; 6) Brian Reyes: A; 7) Stella McCartney: I; 8) Tommy Hilfiger: L; 9) Kenneth Cole: N; 10) Michael Kors: H; 11) Derek Lam: K; 12) Chris Benz: C; 13) Diane von Furstenberg: B; 14) Anna Sui: G







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# COLOR BLIND

Creative Director Joe Zee celebrates ELLE's Green Issue quite literally, with the dos and don'ts of dressing green

**If I can be honest**, my friends often chastise me for not being "green" enough. Most common complaints: Aren't you recycling that? Turn the lights off! Why do you have to drive a tank?

But can you, in fact, be "too green"? Good question. I can say with certainty that while you can never do enough for the environment, you can go very wrong when it comes to wearing the color green.

So in honor of our annual Green Issue, I will not lecture you about carbon credits or fossil fuel. Instead, it's my turn to chastise—this time, for not being color correct. Wearing this pea shade can be tricky. Like salt and Xanax, it should be used sparingly.

If you must, however, here is my guide to some looks that work and those that should never be recycled. Unless, of course, you follow a few simple tweaks, JZ style.

## 1. Some food groups just aren't good for the body

I generally pass on peas and carrots or the Christmas fruitcake. I say no when they're offered to me at the dinner table, and I say no when you come in wearing it.

**HOW I WOULD STYLE THIS:** A partner for green should be carefully picked. Other brights never work. Stick to neutrals instead for a balance (i.e., black pants, gray skirt, or khaki bottoms).



## 2.

### No envy here

I always advise people who are unsure of what matches to stick to monochromatics. They always work. I eat my words, though, when it comes to this trend. While head-to-toe green can look fetching on the Christmas elf at the local mall, it's a more difficult ensemble to pull off at your desk.

**HOW I WOULD STYLE THIS:** Start with one piece of green, and ditch the rest. Yes, one. For what to pair it with, see No. 1.



## 3. Martian legs

I know we are always dictating new trends. Like the more recent ones: Wear neon now! It's all about stockings! But when I saw the hybrid of these two recently, it was a truly scary sight. Neon green tights look good on no one. Their most flattering feature is the illusion of large green calves.

**HOW I WOULD STYLE THIS:** Return the unopened package of tights for something less offensive. For color, I suggest plum, or deep forest green, if you must. And for neutrals, I always opt for black or gray.



## 4. Keeping it simple

Evening dresses can sometimes verge between the tacky and the terrific, and if you're indulging in kelly green, you can only imagine which side you're batting for. The key here? Less is more.



**HOW I WOULD STYLE THIS:** This woman above made it work by keeping the shape body-conscious and simple and having minimal jewelry. So chic!

The lady on the left, however, was not so lucky. Crisscrossing ruffles over a sheer shirt and tie with matching gloves? Ouch!



### What works for me:

Rocking out green and not looking like an extra from the national tour of *Wicked* can be challenging but not impossible. My favorite accent with this color? Metallics. Think a simple gold bag or hip gold boots. When done right, it can be the perfect touch.





Photo credit: Yvette San Miguel

1



2

**TheFabricOfOurLives.com**



3



4



5

# ELLE PROMOTIONS

## 1. KWIAT

It wasn't just the diamonds that dazzled. A sparkling crowd attended Kwiat, Reinhold, and ELLE's Diamond Event of the Year on December 11 at Arquetipo in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Guests donned the latest Kwiat collections as they sipped cocktails and mingled amongst friends and industry insiders. Fashions for models were provided by Nono Maldonado.

Photo (left to right): Russell Kwiat, Marie Helene Morrow, Robin O'Neill, Bill Gould

## 2. BE A NATURAL FASHION MAVEN

Visit TheFabricOfOurLives.com starting April 28 and check out ELLE's "Style Watch" to find the hottest trends that will help you spring into the season. Get the latest naturally chic fashion trends and enter for a chance to win all the fashion items featured on the page. One hundred runners-up will receive a limited edition Cotton t-shirt bearing the slogan "All Natural." From fashion and home decorating to gift-giving ideas and fabric care, the comfortable cotton lifestyle is only a click away.

## 3. ELIE TAHARI

This spring, Elie Tahari unveils an inspired take on exotic cultures ranging from the glamour of safari to the allure of India with a palette that fuses lush bold colors with warm desert hues. Celebrate the dynamic shades of spring with Elie Tahari and Trish McEvoy at Bloomingdale's in April. Experts will be on hand to help customers pair their outfit selections with color-appropriate makeup products and provide them with on-site makeovers. Colorstrology expert Michelle Bernhardt will make a personal appearance at Bloomingdale's in Short Hills and Bergen County. For more information on this event in your area please visit bloomingdales.com.

## 4. MAY IS GOLD MONTH

Strike gold this May. Enter to win your favorite gold jewelry design on jewelry.com/gold and help raise money for children's charities. Treat yourself to the timeless elegance of gold rings, bracelets, earrings, and neckwear or shop for Mother's Day, graduation, bridal season, or summer vacation. May is Gold Month, so treat yourself and those you love. Visit jewelry.com/gold or mayisgoldmonth.com.

## 5. BED HEAD

Who does it better, Brunette Goddesses or Dumb Blondes? New Dumb Blonde Smoothing Stuff fights frizz and adds shine to lackluster locks, while new Brunette Goddess Shine Spray gives brilliant shine and enhances highlights. Vote now through May 31 for your favorite new product at tigihaircare.com. Sold only in professional salons.



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## BREAK ON THROUGH

Finally, Amy Adams is getting the attention she deserves ["Chasing Amy," March 2008]! I have been a fan of hers since her hilarious turn as the villain pageant queen in *Drop Dead Gorgeous* and never understood why she was so overlooked. She's a beautiful actress with a tremendous amount of talent—just the kind of woman I love to see on your cover. Thank you, ELLE, for featuring someone who is on the verge of a breakthrough rather than a predictable lineup of young Hollywood. These are the types of role models that should be available to the young women in our society.

*Shawna, Alabama*



## JUDGING AMY

While reading the cover article "Chasing Amy," I wondered, Is this a 33-year-old established actress or a teenage girl? In the interview she describes herself as "boy crazy" and goes on to say how excited she is about getting to drink coffee in the morning. There's charming, and then there's vacant. Let's try for a cover girl with a little more to say next time.

*Carly V., Utah*

## THE SKINNY

It's not often that a glamorous women's monthly magazine is able to discuss eating disorders in a way that isn't hypocritical ["The Year My Body Shrank," March 2008]. But you have done it. Finally, a story that tells the truth about what lack of proper nutrition will do to your body and what body image has done to society. Thank you for publishing such a frank account of the way we view skinny today. I hope that many mothers suggest this article to their daughters to teach them the same. Thanks, ELLE!

*Sarah, Atlanta*

## ABOVE AVERAGE

"The Year My Body Shrank" was an interesting read. It's sad when doctors won't take the time to actually listen to their patients, which happens with those who are underweight *and* overweight. Some doctors are quick to blame any medical problem on weight, and to blame a weight problem on the patient. The only part of the article that confused me was the author calling herself "an average, medium-size young woman." She admits that at 5'6" and 120 pounds, she's on the "thin side of normal." At 5'4" and 165 pounds, I'm closer to the size of the "average" woman. Either way, it's fantastic that she had doctors to help diagnose her and is on the road to a healthier, more fulfilling life! Thank you, ELLE, for an intelligent story.

*Amber K., Portland, OR*

## FUZZ OFF!

Beauty columns often have a way of making women feel they are in constant need of improvement, but ELLE shares

I was surprised to see Amy Adams on your cover—I didn't know much about her other than that she was the latest Disney princess. But reading the article, I know exactly why you chose her. She is the epitome of the all-American girl and a refreshing exception to Hollywood's scandal-ridden starlets. Finally, a girl I can relate to!

*Rachel,  
Fort Worth, Texas*

the newest in cosmetic procedures as though they are a fun part of the journey. Great job on the story about high-tech treatments for hair removal ["Gone, Baby, Gone," March 2008]. Coco Myers managed to tackle a topic that's a bit embarrassing for those of us who have a little extra peach fuzz on our cheeks and tell her tale of trials in hair removal in a very relatable way. Now I know that I can trust ELLE for my beauty needs and inquiries.

*Margaret, Portland, OR*

## JOLIE JULIE

Thank you for featuring Hollywood legend Julie Christie in your most recent issue ["I Am Legend," March 2008]. She is an inspiring woman, both in her career choices and in her personal values. In an issue with pages dedicated to plastic surgery and young models, it was a breath of fresh air to see someone aging gracefully and living gracefully as well. Now this is an actress all young starlets should look up to.

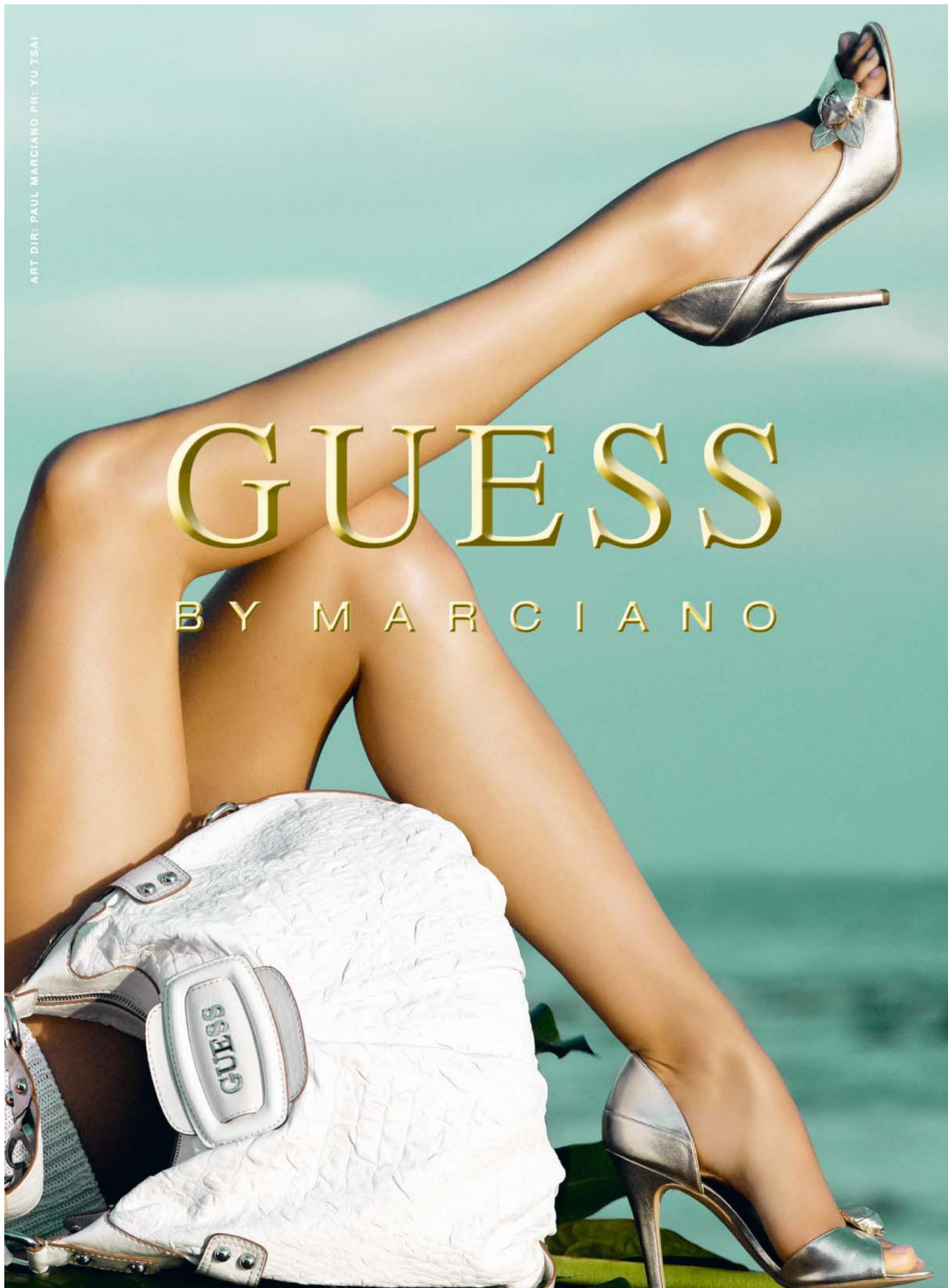
*Mary, via e-mail*

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## ELLE LETTERS

### WRITER'S BLOCK

I was disappointed after reading your interview with Diablo Cody ["Independent Spirit," March 2008]. Here is this fantastically unique woman who has written *Juno*, one of the most critically acclaimed screenplays of the past year, and all we get to hear about are the sordid details of her past as a stripper. Will there ever be a time when we can look at a woman who has beaten the odds and just be proud of her achievements? It's just as bad as all the critics talking about her shoes rather than how great it was when she won the Oscar. She's a smart and successful woman, so why can't we focus on these great things about her?

*Myleen, Washington, DC*

### MAID MARION

I absolutely adored the spread on Marion Cotillard ["Pièce de Résistance," March 2008] and am so happy that you featured such a talented and gorgeous person, and now an Oscar winner! The fashion is absolutely top-notch, and the photography is stunning! The depth of her acting in *La Vie en Rose* is amazing. I think it's important to expose your readers to foreign arts.

*Erin P., New York City*

### THE ODD COUPLE

Being a Cleveland, I was happy to see ELLE do a story on a presidential candidate like Dennis Kucinich, even if it was about his strange romance ["Truly, Madly, Deeply," March 2008]. This was a very informative and well-written article. Thank you and keep up the good work!

*Zoe, Cleveland*

### UNPOPULAR VOTE

I understand that in this current climate women's magazines have a duty to report on political issues. What I don't comprehend is how anyone felt that your profile on Dennis Kucinich and his wife, Elizabeth, fit this bill. His detailed accounting of courting his much younger spouse left me disturbed and confused. I could find more relatable characters on an episode of *The Bachelor*.

Give me Clinton, Obama, or even McCain, but not this!

*Midda, via e-mail*

### EYE WITNESS

Thank you for doing a story on eye jobs! Hearing Holly Millea's firsthand experience in "The Eyes of March" [March 2008] made me realize that getting a little work done isn't something to be afraid of. I was happy to hear her stress the importance of finding a good surgeon. Without that understanding, people are more likely to make a bad decision.

*Christina, Los Angeles*



Hayden  
Christensen

### MYSTERY MAN

Thank you for featuring Canadian actor Hayden Christensen in your ELLE Man section ["A Star Reborn," March 2008]. While he's been fairly successful and received critical accolades as an actor, his personality has always been a mystery to me. It was great to hear him be refreshingly candid about his career and how he's plotting his next move. Whether his new movie *Jumper* is a hit or not, he'll win over viewers by giving interviews like this one.

*Jade, Denver*

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**ANDREA TODD** worked for six months to land an interview with “Anna,” who, as a teenage FBI informant, managed to penetrate the far reaches of the eco-extremist movement (“The Believers,” page 266) and has been hailed by her FBI employers for saving lives. Her initial interest in the story? Todd lives near Sacramento, just miles from some of the targets chosen by the eco-terrorist cell she reports on. She was struck by Anna’s precocious spying, but the activists’ passion for protecting the earth, however misdirected, left an impression too. “These individuals, especially the kids, believe in something so strongly—it’s idealism in its purest sense,” she says. Todd paraded her own youthful idealism through campus antiapartheid marches as a student at UC Berkeley in the ’80s. “I asked my husband, did I honestly run around and tell 40-year-old people that you need to believe one thing or another and that you can change the world? Was I that obnoxious? And he said yes.”

With 24 hours’ notice, **SIMON DOONAN** hopped a 6:30 A.M. flight to L.A. to



interview Madonna for this month’s cover story (“Force of Nature,” page 280). “It was one of the most gorgeously nerve-racking experiences of my life,” he says. “Madonna is one of those people like God and, um... Chairman Mao. She’s one of those iconic people who is just so embedded in our consciousness.” While there can be no perfect strategy for interviewing the inimitable queen of pop, Doonan’s rabid admiration was all he needed. “Madonna has very good reason to be wary of the press, but we had a lot of fun because I tried to ask unconventional questions,” he says. “And I’m such a giant, screaming, raving fan that I had no desire to look for inconsistencies or chinks in the armor.” As creative director of Barneys New York, Doonan oversaw the store’s “Green Holiday” last Christmas. His eco scheme featured Rudolph the Recycling Reindeer (made of tin cans) and Frosty the Fair Trade Snowman. “I think I actually deserve a Nobel Prize for concocting those windows and making them fun and interesting. I was like, Well, what am I going to put in the windows? Drowning polar bears?” Doonan’s latest



book, *Eccentric Glamour* (Simon & Schuster), was published last month.

If you had to pick a behavior to turn into an obsession, there are worse things than compulsively reducing, recycling, and tracking your carbon footprint, which ELLE contributing writer **CATHI HANAUER** half-jokingly calls “greenorexia” and details in “Carry That Weight” (page 260). Hanauer, who lives in Northampton, Massachusetts, with her husband and two kids, says she’s still eco-conscious, possibly even to a fault. “We have a bouquet of flowers that are absolutely dead, and I went to throw them in the trash and thought, I can’t throw these out, they’re biodegradable. So I put them on my back porch in a big heap. A squirrel is eating them, and there’s five feet of snow. They’ll probably sit there for two months until the snow melts, and I’ll go throw them in the woods.” Hanauer is a *New York Times* best-selling novelist and has written for *Real Simple*, *O*, and *Glamour*. She claims that in order to be a writer, you have to be at least a little obsessive.

Doonan: Joe Gaffney; remaining portraits: courtesy of subjects



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**SIVAN LEWIN**, who shot “Balancing Act” (page 308), featuring delicately balanced spring accessories by designers including Ralph Lauren, Calvin Klein, and Giorgio Armani, calls herself a “big, fat hippie.” Lewin, who has photographed for *W*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and commercial clients such as Kate Spade and Nike, hopes some forward-thinking designer creates a really hot solar-powered hand-bag. Lewin would be happy to shoot it—and use it to tote (and charge) her own favorite accessory this season, her iPhone.

Editor-at-large **RACHAEL COMBE** has written on every ELLE-approved topic you could name. But her heart lies in health and science—she pens our Neurotica column—and this month, in “The Lost Boy” (page 240), she explores the political controversy that swirls around childhood autism research. Combe spent five months immersed in the internecine battles between the passionate “autism moms” and the scientific community, and investigating the falling-out among autism’s biggest philanthropists, NBC/Universal chief Bob Wright, his wife, and their



daughter Katie, herself a mother of an autistic son—all while grasping the basic precepts of neurology, immunology, and genetics. “It’s exciting that [researchers] are making strides,” Combe says, “but very hard for the parents who are dealing with the day to day.” Combe has been at ELLE on and off since 1994, when she honed her chops as—it’s true—an intern.

**JULIET GLASS** was conditioned early on to be an omnivore, if only because her father (and famous American composer Philip Glass) was not. “He was a vegetarian in the ’70s, when vegetarian hot dogs came in cans,” she says. “We ate a lot of kasha. It was a real turnoff.” For “Beauty and the Beast” (page 245), Glass willingly whetted her bicuspid teeth to feast at Beast, a Portland restaurant that serves meat raised on sustainable and organic farms. If Glass’s upbringing didn’t banish her longing for animal flesh, she’s unlikely to convert anytime soon. “I’d have a hard time giving up bacon. I called a vegetarian friend and asked, ‘What about bacon?’ and she said, ‘You can still eat bacon and be a vegetarian.’ I don’t think my dad would agree.” Glass is



a contributing editor for *Food Arts* and has written for *The New York Times* and *Sunset*.

What sort of clairvoyance might be required to execute Madonna’s constantly evolving style statements? Meet **ARIANNE PHILLIPS**, who styled her for our cover story (page 280) and has collaborated with Madonna for 10 years on more than 12 music videos and three concert tours. Phillips, who “dances between fashion and film,” was nominated for an Oscar for Best Costume Design for *Walk the Line* in 2006. “Madonna is one of the most forward-thinking people I have ever met,” she says. “She’s not nostalgic, and she doesn’t like to repeat herself.” Phillips’ goal for ELLE’s cover was to invoke a sense of “personal style, personal ease” and easy-to-wear looks, while allowing Miss M the freedom and movement to “have fun in front of the camera without being overly conceptual.” Phillips says she and Madonna have congruous style IQs and both experiment with mixing high and street style. “We’re not label whores. It doesn’t matter where it comes from as long as we like it.” —**RACHEL ROSENBLIT**

Phillips: Joe Mame-Nitzberg; remaining images: courtesy of subjects



# ELLE

## PROMOTIONS

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### 3. SHOPPING WITH FRIENDS

ELLE was honored to be the national media sponsor of the 2007 Shopping With Friends benefit in Charleston, South Carolina. ELLE partnered with Lacoste to host a pre-shopping brunch at the Renaissance Hotel on Saturday, December 8. The Charleston social set came out in force, bidding on a live auction and silent auction featuring signed original sketches by prominent fashion designers including Isaac Mizrahi. Chaired by Karen Siegel, Shopping With Friends recruits select retailers to pledge ten percent of the day's sales to Lowcountry AIDS Services (LAS). Shopping is indeed good for the soul.

Photo (left to right): Karen Siegel, Mary Silsby, Bob Siegel, and Kit Bennett

### 4. HAVAIANAS AND SPIRIT AWARDS GIFT

Havaianas supports the independent spirit of film—and fashion. The first 150 readers to send in a Havaianas receipt to ELLE will receive a Spirit Awards/ELLE Green Room gift bag signed by ELLE's Fashion Director, Nina Garcia. For entry information, please visit [ELLEextra.com](http://ELLEextra.com)'s promotions and events channel. Visit [havaianasus.com](http://havaianasus.com) to find a retailer near you.

### 5. WOMEN OF WORTH CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

Is there a Woman of Worth™ whose volunteer work is making a beautiful difference in your community? Nominate her at [womenofworth.com](http://womenofworth.com), and L'Oréal Paris could award a donation of up to \$25,000 in her name to support her most cherished cause. Because We're All Worth It™!



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## INSPIRATION

I admired thick plaid Welsh blankets at the Great English Outdoors ([greatenglish.co.uk](http://greatenglish.co.uk)), but, with no luggage space, settled on painting them. Though the landscapes' bulbous hedgerows and black mountains were unforgettable, in the used bookstores I found myself paralyzed by gorgeous original hardcover book jackets. The classics and lesser-known favorites inevitably referenced by the festival's guest speakers informed the titles of my own series of painted wooden books.

## SIGHTSEEING

The b.f. and I paddled kayaks from the Wye Valley Canoe Centre and dared to dip in the chilly shallows. At Tretower Court, Charles Knightly, author of *Living Rooms: Interior Decoration in Wales 400–1960*, entertained us with visions of Technicolor Tudor decor. At nearby Kingston's Small Breeds Farm Park & Owl Centre ([owlcentre.com](http://owlcentre.com)), I held a baby barn owl in my palm and brayed at the miniature donkeys, then recited A. E. Housman's "A Shropshire Lad" while driving back through rolling green hills.

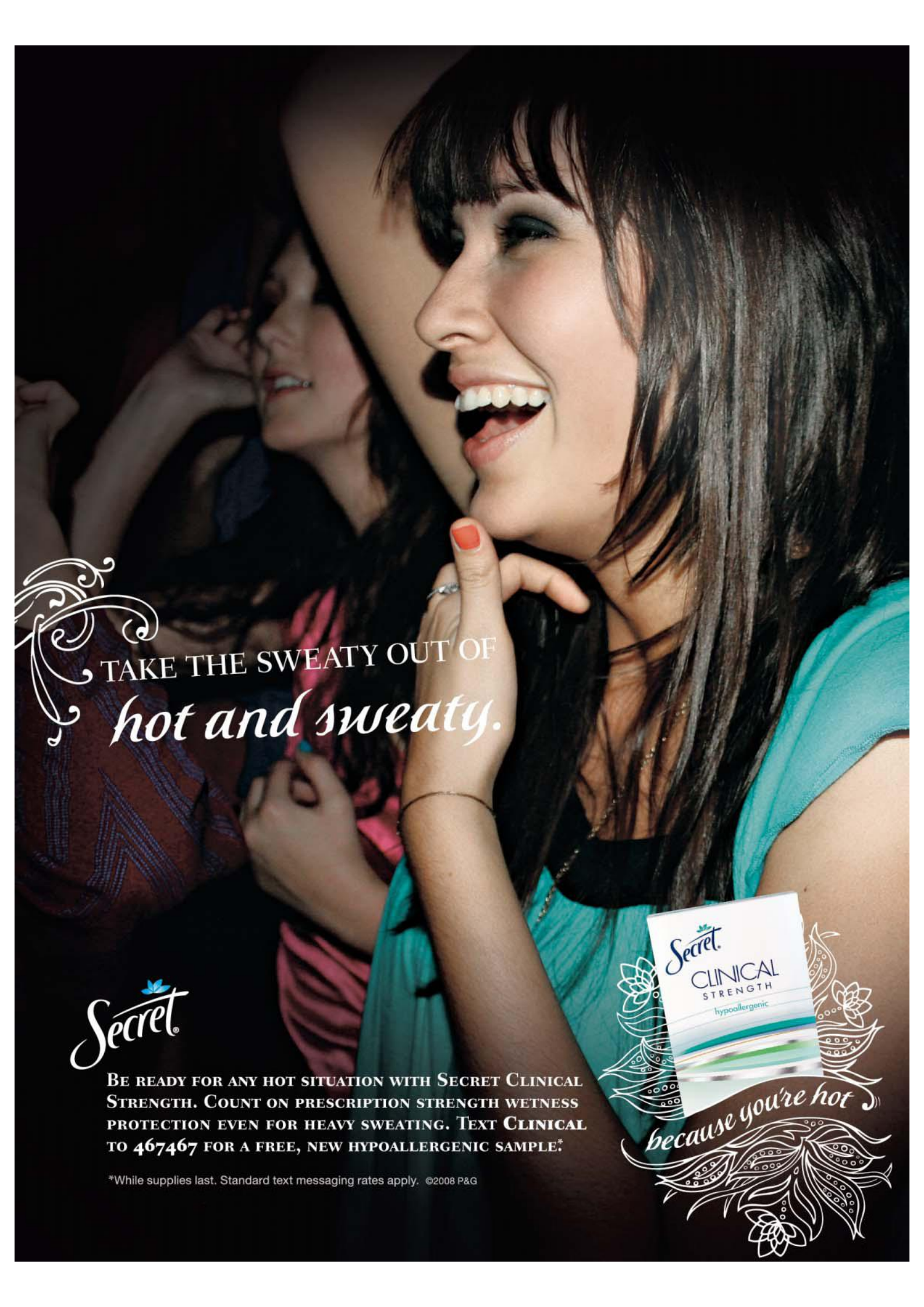
# EATING & SLEEPING

A few miles upriver from the festival site is the cheerful River Cafe ([wyevalleycanoes.co.uk/rivercafe/index.htm](http://wyevalleycanoes.co.uk/rivercafe/index.htm)), which rents four rooms, two overlooking the river Wye, and serves hearty breakfasts with strong Italian coffee. Between events and tea-shop stops, I inhaled local Tyrrells potato chips—my new Achilles' heel ([tyrrellspotatochips.co.uk](http://tyrrellspotatochips.co.uk)); they've got flavors like Ludlow Sausage with Wholegrain Mustard. Perfect with a cold cup of wine before a stimulating Edith Wharton lecture!

## SHOPPING

Adorable Hay-on-Wye is built for used-book browsing, including Honesty Boxes trusting shoppers to leave 50p per tome! All you need is a Sensible BookShop (3 Lion St.) book bag and a handful of pound coins. I scored a first edition of *Jaws* and stocked up on Paned Gymreig Welsh tea. The weather necessitates galoshes (from PSM Outdoors, 7 Castle St.) that will get caked in festival mud, initiating you as a true lecturegoer. I schlepped home Tamasin Day-Lewis' *Kitchen Bible* (I'm a complete convert) and Orhan Pamuk's sublime *Snow*.





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# GOODWILL HUNTING

Nina Garcia comes to grips with sustainable fashion and brings a few new finds home for the family

would be lying if I said that I live an ecologically conscious life. My shoes are not only leather but imported, and my main method of transport is an SUV. And while the Garcia household does manage to recycle on a regular basis, that's my only noted contribution to the environment. Which is why, when it comes

time to begin work on our annual Green Issue, I usually have visions of burlap potato sacks and bland oatmeal thermals.

However, my interest in eco fashion was piqued after attending a seminar last fall hosted by the world-renowned trend forecaster Li Edelkoort. The topic was design and technology and our entrance into a new environmentally conscious age. Edelkoort discussed the need for fewer artificial, throwaway goods and more sustainable products, and for celebrating the process of things being made by hand and making country elements work with our very urban lives. Her words inspired me because she elevated the idea of eco living as one that

could be creative and unique. I couldn't help but walk away wanting to approach our Green Issue from an angle of high fashion. I also had a few ideas about how to bring a bit of the rural life into my New York apartment.

Ultimately, I wanted to marry my newfound eco enthusiasm with my job. This is our third Green Issue, and in terms of fashion, it's been a challenge to supersede the reputation of unflattering designs in limited materials. (The word *hemp* is an unwelcome guest at every fashion meeting.) We toyed with the idea of commissioning designers whom we regularly feature in the pages of ELLE to create looks that were eco-friendly yet high fashion. And then, amazingly, it turned out Barneys New York was on the same wavelength, working with the non-profit organization Earth Pledge to create one-of-a-kind pieces with designers such as Calvin Klein, Jil Sander, Marni, and YSL. (Turn to page 294 for the results.) This season, I was thrilled to see some of my favorite designers, like Behnaz Sarafpour and Phillip Lim, produce small organic

Above: Blue Hill at Stone Barns in the Hudson Valley. Left: Nearby Tarrytown House Estate & Conference Center, which has a number of eco programs

## My Favorite Earth-Friendly Fashions



1. Pleated cotton gown, GO GREEN GO BY 3.1 PHILLIP LIM, \$995, at 3.1 Phillip Lim, NYC | 2. Eco-gold eclipse chain, TOBY POMEROY, price upon request, visit tobypomero.com | 3. Cotton double-breasted coat, GO GREEN GO BY 3.1 PHILLIP LIM, \$595, call 212-334-1160 | 4. Raffia jersey clutch, DIANE VON FURSTENBERG, \$450, call 646-486-4800 | 5. Embroidered cotton dress, BEHNAZ SARAFPOUR, \$2,140, at Stanley Korshak, Dallas | 6. Eco-gold and diamond cuff, TOBY POMEROY, price upon request, visit tobypomero.com | 7. Organic cotton pearl-embroidered top, BEHNAZ SARAFPOUR, \$1,695, at Jake, Chicago | 8. Organic canvas ballet flats, REPETTO X EARNEST SEWN, \$275, at Barneys New York | 9. Organic cotton pants, STELLA MCCARTNEY, price upon request, at Stella McCartney, L.A. | 10. Gold and diamond rings, MELISSA JOY MANNING, \$585-\$2,200, at Gold Bug, Pasadena, CA

Blue Hill at Stone Barns: Jen Munkvold; Sarafpour top, Repetto flats, Lim dress and jacket: Mark Platt (styled by Eddy Alcantara); DVF clutch: Xavier Brunet (styled by Mai Tran); remaining still lifes: courtesy of designers; for details, see Shopping Guide



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## Eco for Babies



1. Organic cotton two-piece set with hat, **BELLA BLISS**, \$50, visit [bellabliss.com](http://bellabliss.com) | 2. Organic cotton T-shirt, **CHILDISH CLOTHING**, \$40, visit [childishclothing.com](http://childishclothing.com) | 3. Organic cotton cardigan and hat, **BELLA BLISS**, \$70, call 866-846-5295 | 4. Baby soap, **ERBAVIVA**, \$10, visit [erbaviva.com](http://erbaviva.com) | 5. Cotton sweater, **OUR GREEN HOUSE**, \$59, visit [ourgreenhouse.com](http://ourgreenhouse.com)

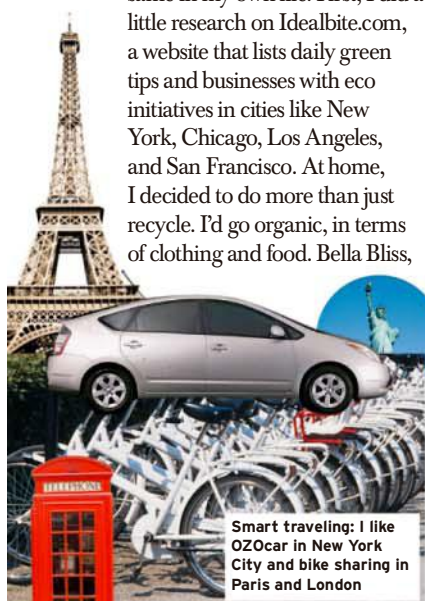
capsule collections that mimic their distinct points of view.

These designers and others are changing our perception of the now limitless possibilities of eco fashion, and the craftsmanship that goes into their work has resulted in a new form of high-end design. Throughout this issue, you'll see a lot of my personal favorite finds for spring.

If ELLE was going green, I thought it was time to do the same in my own life. First, I did a little research on Idealbite.com, a website that lists daily green tips and businesses with eco initiatives in cities like New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. At home, I decided to do more than just recycle. I'd go organic, in terms of clothing and food. Bella Bliss,

started making more trips to the Greenmarket in Union Square to purchase seasonal fruits and vegetables. For one particularly memorable dinner, my husband and I took a trip to the restaurant Blue Hill at Stone Barns in the Hudson Valley, which uses primarily fresh, local produce. (If you go, I highly recommend the Berkshire pork loin.) My biggest environmental crime is a bottled-water addiction, so instead of opening a new one every hour, I switched to a glass. Needless to say, I've been spending a lot more time at our office's water cooler. Most surprising to myself—and I'm sure quite a number of my fashion colleagues!—is that on a recent trip to Paris, I fell in love with its urban bike-sharing program, an idea that I hope comes to New York. Until then, I'm trying to make an effort to walk instead of taking taxis. Thank God flats are in.

Come next year, I can only imagine the plethora of designers who will catch the green bug and participate in the conservation of our environment, even if it is just about creating a little dress. Of course, I am in no position to preach. Although Mommy and baby will be sporting new organic fashions this spring, I'm not ready to transition to cloth diapers. But I certainly won't mind carrying the earth-unfriendly ones in my new Marc by Marc Jacobs organic tote.



a great children's brand that I love buying for my son, recently introduced a line of adorable green pieces that are not only good for him—babies tend to be more sensitive to chemicals, such as those used in fabric dyes—but also good for the environment. I



Behnaz Sarafpour

## Great Green Pieces



1. Organic cotton faille coral-embroidered dress, **BEHNAZ SARAFPOUR**, \$2,990, at select Saks Fifth Avenue | 2. Rose Day Cream, **DR. HAUSCHKA**, \$40, visit [drhauschka.com](http://drhauschka.com) | 3. Recycled material notebooks, **MUJI**, \$3.50 for a set of five, visit [momastore.org](http://momastore.org) | 4. Engraved wood clog, **STELLA MCCARTNEY**, \$1,495, at Stella McCartney, NYC | 5. Organic hemp canvas shopping bag, **MARC BY MARC JACOBS**, \$128, visit [shopbop.com](http://shopbop.com)

Runway: Marcio Madeira; telephone booth, bikes, Eiffel Tower, Statue of Liberty: Getty Images; Sarafpour dress: Mark Platt (styled by Eddy Alcantara); remaining still lifes: courtesy of designer; for details, see Shopping Guide





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# MR. SUSTAINABILITY

NFL linebacker, Salvador Dalí lover, poet, and activist Dhani Jones was so moved by *An Inconvenient Truth* that he signed up for the great Gore's three-day tutorial on how to present the movie and slide-show to audiences. For all of this and more, we dub Dhani (whose name means "thinking man" in Hindi) ELLE's Mr. Green Hunk of 2008. Who says fighting global warming isn't hot?

## DATA SHEET

**NAME:** Mr. Dhani Jones  
**BIRTH DATE:** February 22, 1978  
**BIRTHPLACE:** San Diego  
**HEIGHT:** 6'2"  
**WEIGHT:** 231 pounds  
**CHEST:** 49"—hair included  
**WAIST:** Tight and tapered  
**THIGHS:** Sculpted like a Rodin  
**CAN BENCH-PRESS:** You and several of your girlfriends

**ALMA MATER:** University of Michigan

**FASHION STATEMENT:** Colorful socks, a draped scarf, and a self-knotted bow tie

**STATUS:** Dreaming, always thinking, always being

**AMBITIONS:** Traveling the world, gaining cultural insights, meeting new and exciting people

**TURN-ONS:** Beautifully sculpted hands, runway walk, intelligence, LED lightbulbs, recycling bins, long legs

**TURN-OFFS:** Bad breath, sweatshops, shark soup, air-conditioning, leaky faucets, closed-mindedness

**FAMILY:** They're crazy, just like everyone else. I love my niece. She is amazing and beautiful.

**MENTOR:** My father

**WHAT I DRIVE:** I ride a fixie, or what some might call a single-speed bike.

**IDEA OF A GOOD CATCH:** Yellowfin tuna; line-caught, big-eyed

salmon; Ivy League or University of Michigan graduate  
**FAVORITE POLITICIAN:** Sun Tzu—the tactics of life have never been described so clearly.

**GREENEST PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT:** Riding my bike to work for six months straight—no car, no bus

**CARBON NEUTRAL OR CARBON NEGATIVE?** Carbon neutral

**WHAT I'VE DONE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT LATELY:** Spread the good word about reducing carbon emissions to teammates, friends, anyone who will listen

**WHAT MAKES FOR A SEXY ENVIRONMENTALIST:** Educated, free-spirited, reads all the time, nonjudgmental, true and just

**FAVORITE DESIGNER:** Christian Louboutin, James Perse, Ozwald Boateng, oh, and Chucks

**SHEETS:** Vertical stripes, always vertical stripes. No more than 350 thread count. Over that is

too silky (don't like silky).

**PJS:** 100 percent unbleached organic-cotton boxer briefs

**PET:** Rock

**BEST NATURE HIGH:** Sitting in a lounge chair in shallow water, waves lapping at my ankles, 81 degrees, cool breeze, and nobody around for miles

**PLACE I'LL MISS MOST IF GLOBAL WARMING GOES UNABATED:** Miami. Where else will I be able to dance?

**NOISE POLLUTION PET PEEVE:** Cell phone usage during movies

**WHAT KEEPS ME GOING ON DARK DAYS:** The responsibility of my last name, my family, and my family to come

**I'M VOTING FOR:** Once you go black, you never go back.

**BEST THING AN ENVIRONMENTALIST EVER SAID TO ME:** One man can make a difference.

**BEST THING A WOMAN EVER SAID TO ME:** I'll love you forever, I'll like you for always; until the end, you will be my son.





**AK**  
ANNE KLEIN





# HEATING UP

It's time, as time runs out, for us to choose, says guest editor **Laurie David**: Make global warming the reason you pull the lever at the polls in November

**B**y now you have probably figured out that green is not a fad, and it's not a trend. It's a way of life. Americans have finally begun to understand global warming in the three years since *An Inconvenient Truth* opened in theaters, the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released its fourth, devastating report, and the Stop Global Warming virtual march that I founded began. Would I call it a shift in consciousness? I feel that we're at the very beginning of it. But here's a story that cheers me: A woman I know has long been something of a cynic about climate change—she knows it's happening, but her attitude has always been, "I've got too much on my plate; I just can't bear to think about this enormous problem." Then the other day I saw her carrying cloth bags around town. I asked, "What's that about?" and she replied, "It finally got to me. I couldn't take it anymore. I was reading about how Ireland has begun taxing plastic bags, and something clicked."

Something clicked. We are all, I hope, experiencing similar epiphanies, whether we're drinking water out of aluminum bottles rather than plastic ones, or unplugging our cell phone chargers when we're not using them, or reducing the amount of meat in our diets. But the big change is around the corner. It's the presidential election in November. According to the polling firm Greenberg Quinlan Rosner, young, single women—who don't usually vote but who in this election cycle appear to be, in record numbers—are now a force to be reckoned with. Thus, many of you reading this have an unprecedented opportunity to affect the course of global warming, and that's by voting the issue. Because climate change will impact everything else in your life: the economy, war, immigration, the intensity of natural disasters—and also your insurance rates, your ski vacation, your electricity bill, and whether your flight leaves on time.

Shortly after I started giving speeches about global warming three years ago, climate expert James Hansen, director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, said we had only 10 years to

reduce carbon emissions before irreversible consequences took place. Scientists are the most cautious people on the planet, and I never thought I'd hear them use words like, "I'm shocked," or "We can't believe how fast this is happening," or "Catastrophic." So when they get alarmed, that alarms *me*.

What you should be asking yourselves, and the candidates, is who in the first 100 hours, not the first 100 days, is going to create the action to tackle this. He or she will be appointing dozens of key agency heads and federal judges who will either move us ahead or keep us stuck where we are. The clock is ticking; this is the shot, not four years from now. If we don't take this seriously, we are...it's a word I shouldn't use in a national magazine.

**AND YET**, how is it possible that all the environmentalists I know are optimists?

I think it's because change—the riff of politics, the mood of the country—is really possible for the first time in decades. Global warming has to be attacked from both the top and the bottom. We're doing our part as individuals, and now it's time for the federal government to do its part, by establishing a mandatory cap on emissions. The only way to make this happen is if you make global warming one of the reasons you pull the lever in the voting booth; government doesn't change until the people—you—demand it. It's the next generation's chance, your chance, to be part of the solution. The whole I-don't-care generation is about to be over.

I'll see you at the polls.

*Sign up for the virtual march at [Stopglobalwarming.org](http://Stopglobalwarming.org).*



Laurie David

Top, from left: © NASA/Corbis; © Andrew Holbrooke/Corbis; David: © Julian Dufort



# MAY IS GOLD MONTH



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# STAYING ALIVE

Have the season's brights blinded you senseless? Are you finding yourself with foot fetish fantasies but not sure what to wear? ELLE's Fashion Know-It-All, **Anne Slowey**, shows you how to boldly go where you (and hopefully some cute boy) have never dared to go before



Dear FKIA,

*I'm enamored with the colors on the runway this season—but I don't quite know how to pull them off. Do I wear one color head to toe or mix it with a dark or funky neutral?—Diana P., Atlanta*

Dear Diana,

The major color statements designers are making this spring—aside from florals—are less about Joseph's Technicolor Dreamcoat hues than bold jewel tones that haven't been popular since the late '70s or early '80s, when individualism in fashion reigned over status dressing. What's different about it this time around is that the silhouettes are, as in the cases of Thakoon or Lanvin's billowing evening dresses, so sumptuous they appear almost regal rather than vulgar, or—as with Marc Jacobs for Louis Vuitton—ladylike and prim. Raf Simons at Jil Sander also did flyaway scarf dresses in layered brights, but his skinny pants and elongated jackets were perhaps the edgiest of the season's incarnations. Don't worry so much about

mixing and matching; rather, pick a color that suits your skin tone and you feel comfortable in. I just bought a turquoise Lanvin satin dress, and it felt great to stand out in a sea of black and neutrals. So if you like color, just go for it. But you want to avoid looking cheap—poor fabrics usually don't take color well. Unless you're buying high-end, make sure to stick to cotton sundresses and shirt-waists from places like J.Crew, or pair a bright tank with a slim skirt or leggings from American Apparel—which, when it comes to the palette of the moment, seems to get it just right. If you can afford big price tags, the designers already have figured out what works together, so trust in their talent and just slap down your credit card for something bold. There is no such thing as too bright this spring, but keep the accessories to a minimum (though mixing a bright or off-color shoe would work), and don't go for anything girly or cartoonish. The last thing you want is to end up looking like Elton John or Jo Anne Worley.

Dear FKIA,

*I am obsessed with the outrageous shoes that are coming down the runway, but they seem so impractical. How do I wear them without looking like a freak?*

—Julie, Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Julie,

You are missing the point of all the artistic flourishes in footwear this season. It's not so much how you wear them but that you are prepared for what will happen to you if you do. Clearly these shoes are attention-getters, so if you haven't had any experience with men who have foot fetishes, I'd bone up on the subject. Personally, I love the spotlight that wearing outrageous shoes brings. I've never stepped out in a pair of eye-poppers and not had at least half a dozen people latch on to me, men and women alike, with fire burning in their eyes. Make no mistake. I'm well aware that it's not me they are after. It's my feet (which do happen to be quite lovely, I must say). But admittedly, the whole thing feels a bit too *Looking for Mr. Goodbar*; people who suck on toes (full disclosure: No lips have yet embraced my digits) are all potential psychopaths in my book. But this season I am turning the tables, with Balenciaga's woven boots designed by Pierre Hardy.

Hardy had the unfortunate experience of first meeting me on my way to a Halloween party, in full Ann-Margret drag. He was a little frightened, to say the least, but we've since become friends. When he told me the Balenciaga boots take 45 minutes to get in and out of, I realized that any man who wants to get at my feet while I'm wearing those boots will have met his Waterloo. In other words, I'm gonna go out and find me a shoe boy to bring home at the end of the night. If any cute male demonstrates the patience to spend 45 minutes unlacing my shoes, he can suck on anything he likes.

As for how to pull off this look, it's all about contrast. I'd wear these with something short and severely sculptural, though I love the boots with Ghesquière's floral Bugatti-inspired dresses. Marc Jacobs' surrealist-heel pumps would look great with any '50s-style tight skirt-and-sweater set, while Miu Miu and Prada's nature-inspired sandals and boots have a more fairy-tale vibe, perfect for short, shiny, multicolor minis or full-skirted, midcalf silhouettes. Just make sure you're well-groomed before braving the foot-fetish world. The last thing you want is for your shoe boy to go for the toes and stare up onto tarantula-hairy legs. Then, poor dear, you'll be taking off those shoes all by yourself.





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# ELLE FASHION

1. ALEXIS BITTAR  
AND MARNI

2. BALMAIN

## THE LOOK

May 2008

Unleash your inner Carmen with a striking bohemian look that's as seductive as it is empowering

GET THE LOOK ON PAGE 110

1. Blue Lucite bangles and cuffs, ALEXIS BITTAR, \$150-\$495, visit alexisbittar.com. Colored resin bangle, MARNI, \$471, visit marni.com | 2. Fringe-trimmed dress with goatskin belt, BALMAIN, price upon request, collection at Jeffrey, NYC | 3. Python sandals, GIUSEPPE ZANOTTI FOR BALMAIN, \$1,200, visit balmain.com

3. GIUSEPPE ZANOTTI FOR BALMAIN



# GET THE LOOK

Mellow out with a wash of tie-dye prints and fancy-free accessories



Agate and diamond earrings, JANE TAYLOR, \$3,650, call 800-240-2282



Lambskin bag, FENDI, \$1,950, at Fendi Boutique nationwide. Cuffed cotton shorts, THAKOON, \$510, at Kirna Zabete, NYC



Peep-toe pump, CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN, \$790, visit christianlouboutin.fr



Bikini, DASLU, \$98, visit daslu.com.br



Tiered chiffon dress, MICHAEL KORS, \$2,295, at Bergdorf Goodman, NYC



Scarf, MATTHEW WILLIAMSON, \$415, visit www.matthewwilliamson.com



Green diamond and chrysocolla ring, KIMBERLY McDONALD, \$5,200, at Bergdorf Goodman, NYC



Plaid tunic, NICOLE FARHI, \$695, visit nicolefarhi.com



Bikini top, \$51, bottom, \$45, both, LOCAL MOTION, at select Macy's nationwide



Cotton voile tunic, TORY BURCH, \$395, visit toryburch.com



Bikini, GAPBODY, \$35, at GapBody stores nationwide



Three-button tank, 525 AMERICA, \$72, at Gotham, Millburn, NJ



Cotton jersey dress, TOPSHOP, \$87, visit topshop.com



Satchel, JESSICA SIMPSON, \$108, at select Macy's nationwide. Canvas sneaker, CONVERSE, \$47, visit converse.com







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11. LUCKY BRAND JEANS



2. SWATCH



3. EMILIO PUCCI



10. PRADA



4. LOCAL MOTION



5. PENNY LOVES KENNY



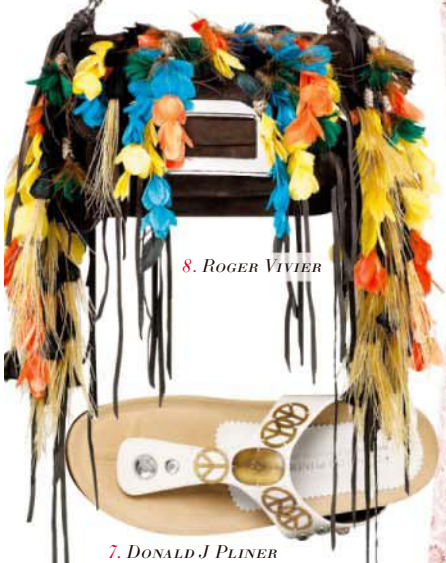
6. BALMAIN



9. PRADA



8. ROGER VIVIER



7. DONALD J PLINER

1. Embroidered lambskin bags, FENDI, price upon request, call 800-FENDI-NY | 2. Watch, SWATCH, \$55, visit [swatch.com](http://swatch.com) | 3. Suede cutout shift dress, EMILIO PUCCI, \$2,920, at Emilio Pucci stores nationwide | 4. Bikini top, \$49, bikini bottom, \$39, both, LOCAL MOTION, at select Macy's | 5. Flip-flops, PENNY LOVES KENNY, \$26 each, visit [pennyloveskenny.com](http://pennyloveskenny.com) | 6. Cotton-blend pants, BALMAIN, \$1,758, collection at select Inermix stores nationwide | 7. Patent leather sandal, DONALD J PLINER, \$235, visit [donaldjpliner.com](http://donaldjpliner.com) | 8. Suede and feather buckle bag, ROGER VIVIER, price upon request, at Roger Vivier, NYC | 9. Floral-detail suede platform, PRADA, \$980, similar styles at select Prada Boutique nationwide | 10. Organza dress, PRADA, \$5,065, at select Neiman Marcus | 11. Cotton tank tops, LUCKY BRAND JEANS, \$48 each, visit [luckybrandjeans.com](http://luckybrandjeans.com)

Pucci dress: Balmain pants, Vivier bag, Love sandals: Mark Platt (styling by Eddy Alcantara); Prada dress, Lucky Brand tanks: Devon Jarvis (styling by Renee Yen); Fendi bags, watch, swimsuit: courtesy of the designers; runway: Marcio Madeira; backstage: Imaxtree.com and Canonieri & Fortis; for details, see Shopping guide



Photographed by Terry Richardson

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9. BRETTE SANDLER

8. ROBERTO CAVALLI

10. ROBERTO CAVALLI

5. INTIMISSIMI



2. SMYTHE

1. BULGARI

3. LUCKY BRAND JEANS



4. SMYTHE

1. Sapphire, emerald, and diamond bracelet, BULGARI, price upon request, call 800-BULGARI | 2. Cotton vest, SMYTHE, \$299, at Dari, Studio City, CA | 3. Patchwork shorts, LUCKY BRAND JEANS, \$78, visit [luckybrandjeans.com](http://luckybrandjeans.com) | 4. Linen-blend blazer, SMYTHE, \$525, visit [smythesvestes.com](http://smythesvestes.com) | 5. Bra, \$34, boy shorts, \$20, both INTIMISSIMI, at select Victoria's Secret stores nationwide | 6. Patent leather and cotton wedge, MALOLES, \$448, visit [shopbop.com](http://shopbop.com) | 7. Drawstring floral top, GAP, \$50, visit [gap.com](http://gap.com) | 8. Silk and chiffon jumper, ROBERTO CAVALLI, \$1,625, at Roberto Cavalli Boutique nationwide | 9. Bikini, BRETTE SANDLER, \$163, visit [shopbop.com](http://shopbop.com) | 10. Silk and chiffon tunic, ROBERTO CAVALLI, \$4,355, visit [www.robertocavalli.com](http://www.robertocavalli.com)

Bulgari bracelet: courtesy of Bulgari; Maloles shoe: Mark Platt (styling by Eddy Alcantara); remaining still lifes: Devon Jarvis (styling by Renee Yen); runway: Marcio Madeira; backstage: imaxtree.com (2) and Cannonieri & Fortis; for details, see Shopping Guide



NORDSTROM



EST. 1941



# Tropical Punch

CHEER UP YOUR CLOSET WITH SPRING'S ISLAND-STYLE RAFFIA-EMBELLISHED PIECES



1. J.CREW

SEEN AT:

6267

LANVIN

ARMAND BASI ONE

2. PAUL SMITH

3. ARMAND BASI ONE

4. J.CREW

11. CAROLINA HERRERA

10. DONNA KARAN COLLECTION

8. HOLLYWOULD

9. J.CREW

7. ARMAND BASI ONE

6. PAUL SMITH

5. FENDI

1. Flower belt, J.CREW, \$23, [visit jcrew.com](http://www.jcrew.com) | 2. Straw-trim floral cardigan, PAUL SMITH, \$750, at Paul Smith, NYC | 3. Paper and metal bangle, ARMAND BASI ONE, \$216, [visit www.armandbasi.com](http://www.armandbasi.com) | 4. Flap slingback, J.CREW, \$255, [visit jcrew.com](http://www.jcrew.com) | 5. Bag, FENDI, \$2,750, call 800-FENDI-NY | 6. Floral straw woven skirt, PAUL SMITH, \$1,275, call 646-613-3060 | 7. Leather and paper pump, ARMAND BASI ONE, \$706, [visit www.armandbasi.com](http://www.armandbasi.com) | 8. Straw bag, HOLLYWOULD, \$425, call 212-219-1905 | 9. Silk jacket, J.CREW, \$295, [visit jcrew.com](http://www.jcrew.com) | 10. Nylon skirt, DONNA KARAN COLLECTION, \$4,800, at select Donna Karan Collection stores nationwide | 11. Silk shantung dress with floral appliqué, CAROLINA HERRERA, price upon request, at Carolina Herrera, NYC |

Donna Karan skirt: courtesy of Donna Karan; bags: courtesy of the designers; Paul Smith cardigan, Paul Smith skirt, J.Crew necklace: Mark Platt (styling by Eddy Alcantara); remaining still lifes: Devon Jarvis (styling by Renee Yen); backstage: Inaxtree.com (3) and Camonieri & Fortis; for details, see Shopping Guide









# Blues Traveler

DENIM'S REBELLIOUS  
ROCKER SIDE TAKES  
CENTER STAGE



SEEN AT:

BURBERRY

MAISON MARTIN MARGIELA

CHRISTOPHER KANE



1. HOUSE OF HOLLAND



D&G



10. D&G



11. MAISON MARTIN MARGIELA



2. JUST CAVALLI



7. LE JEAN DE BY MARITHÉ FRANÇOIS GIRBAUD



6. HARMON



5. CHRISTOPHER KANE



9. ETRO AND CONVERSE BY JOHN VARVATOS



3. BLUGIRL BY BLUMARINE



4. BURBERRY

1. Gold and silver rings, HOUSE OF HOLLAND, \$500 each, at Seven, NYC | 2. Vest, JUST CAVALLI, \$600, at Just Cavalli, L.A. | 3. Cotton jeans, BLUGIRL BY BLUMARINE, \$690, visit blugirl.it | 4. Alligator bag, BURBERRY, price upon request, at Burberry, NYC | 5. Biker jacket, CHRISTOPHER KANE, \$1,320, collection at Ikram, Chicago | 6. Patchwork skirt, HARMON, \$315, at Oak, NYC | 7. Cotton vest, LE JEAN DE BY MARITHÉ FRANÇOIS GIRBAUD, \$95, collection at On Sunset, West Hollywood, CA | 8. Cage pump, TANIA SPINELLI, \$815, to order, call 212-391-0050 | 9. Leather belt, ETRO, \$1,340, at Etro, Las Vegas. Miniskirt, CONVERSE BY JOHN VARVATOS, \$125, at Legends, Nantucket, MA | 10. Patchwork dress, \$1,500, calfskin belt, \$235, both, D&G, visit dolcegabbana.it | 11. Cotton sleeveless shirt, MAISON MARTIN MARGIELA, \$845, at Anastasia Boutique, Laguna Beach, CA |

Cavalli vest, Blugirl jeans, Kane jacket, Harmon skirt, Spinnelli sandal, Converse skirt, horse top: Mark Platt (styling by Eddy Alcantara); Burberry bag, white vest, D&G dress: Devon Jarvis (styling by Renee Yen); House of Holland rings: courtesy of the designer; Rolling Stones book: courtesy of the publisher; runway: Marcio Madeira; backstage: Greg Kessler (2) and Imaxtree.com; for details, see Shopping guide



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silk, brass, wood,  
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VUITTON**, price upon  
request, call 866-  
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[WWW.JOHNHARDY.COM](http://WWW.JOHNHARDY.COM)

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SAKS FIFTH AVENUE







Raffia embroidered bag, FENDI, \$4,970, call 800-FENDI-NY. Raffia-trim sandal, LANVIN, \$1,375, visit [www.lanvin.com](http://www.lanvin.com)

## GrassRoots

FROM HAND TO TOE, SPRING'S MOST FESTIVE ACCESSORIES SPORT A DASH OF RAFFIA

Photographed by Svend Lindbaek (styling by Eilyn Chestnut and Nina Sterghio); for details, see Shopping Guide



# NEVER HIDE



www.ray-ban.com Style: RB4101



GENUINE SINCE 1937



# Urban Safari

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STYLE BEADED ACCESSORIES



Beaded fringe-trim wedge sandal, **FENDI**, \$720, call 800-FENDI-NY. Beaded bag with patent leather strap, **ROGER VIVIER**, price upon request, at Roger Vivier, NYC. Beaded fold-over clutch, **STELLA McCARTNEY**, \$1,495, visit [stellamccartney.com](http://stellamccartney.com)



# NEVER HIDE



www.ray-ban.com Styles: RB2140/RB3342



GENUINE SINCE 1937





### Gold Water

California jeweler Suzanne Felsen is introducing a line of oceanic-theme cocktail rings made out of recycled 18-karat gold. By mixing rose, yellow, and white gold scraps filed off during the typical design process and fashioning them into prickly sea-urchin-inspired pieces, the Los Angeles native hopes to remind people how important it is to be mindful of natural resources and minerals.

Peach moonstone ring, Suzanne Felsen, \$4,100, visit [suzannefelsen.com](http://suzannefelsen.com)



### Coral Values

Design heavyweights are banding together for Too Precious to Wear, a program devoted to saving coral reefs around the world. Although 20 percent of the earth's reefs have already been destroyed, companies like Tiffany & Co. are banning the red and pink coral from its products, and Chantecaille Beauté has created limited-edition compacts to raise awareness.

Limited-edition turquoise compact with glazed coral branch and sparkling rhinestones, Jay Strongwater for Chantecaille, \$420, at select Neiman Marcus. Stainless steel and white lacquered aluminum bowl, Michael Aram, \$430, call 866-792-ARAM



### Green Peace

Leave it to a Swiss company to be a pioneer in going (carbon) neutral. Not only is IWC reducing its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by at least 50 percent, but the luxury watch brand also sources all electricity from green hydroelectric power and requires company cars to be hybrids.

Alligator-strap watches in white gold or rose gold, IWC, prices upon request, call 800-432-9330

### Lost and Found

For Cathy Waterman, designing jewelry for her new Objets Trouvés collection is literally as easy as a walk in the park. She takes found objects, such as petrified fossils and labradorite stones, many dug up while hiking in Santa Monica, and sets them with conflict-free diamonds for pieces that have a nostalgic art nouveau vibe.

Fossilized coral and diamond Japanese flower pendant necklace, Cathy Waterman, price upon request, at Twist, Portland, OR



All still lifes: courtesy of the designers; for details, see Shopping Guide



# NEVER HIDE



Styles: RX5141/RB3373

[www.ray-ban.com](http://www.ray-ban.com)



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[www.MysteryFabric.com](http://www.MysteryFabric.com)

What are you wearing?





## NEW YORK

**MAGIC HOUR** Iconic photographer Helen Levitt's new eponymous monograph, published by Powerhouse Books, features the artist at her best: capturing classic, only-in-New York moments, such as a girl taking an impromptu bathroom break. [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)



## MONTREAL

**FRIENDLY CANADIANS** Montreal-based handbag line Matt & Nat makes cruelty-free vegan totes with a clean, modern aesthetic out of convincing faux leather fabrics, like this "vintage vegan leather" bag with nylon and a cute plaid lining. [mattandnat.com](http://mattandnat.com)



## JAPAN

**FOLLOWING TRADITION** Found objects are coming into eco fashion. Vintage kimonos and silk obis are reimagined as delicate rosette brooches in vibrant colors when reworked by Japanese artist Naomi. [pomme.com.au](http://pomme.com.au)



## LONDON

**SMOOTH OPERATOR** New high-end lingerie designer Jenny White's Eco-Boudoir collection employs the softest silk for camisoles, panties, and robes, all made sustainably and available at the new eco Greenleaves section of Figleaves.com.

## NEW YORK

**WHITE LIGHTS** To celebrate the opening of his new store, Yohji Yamamoto wrapped his new Meatpacking outpost with a little help from Roman Coppola and his production company, Directors Bureau. The art-installation-cum-light-box effect was created using aluminum and PVC.



## NEW YORK

**FULL EXPOSURE** Inhabit's Susie Cho, who's known for her delicate cashmeres, is unleashing a new line of organic cotton T-shirts and tanks that are so tissue thin and finely cut they're sure to be the next must-have basic. [inhabitny.com](http://inhabitny.com)



## NEW YORK

**SURE HIT** Trendsetting rebel Alexander Wang and Uniqlo have teamed up on a collection of easy cotton rompers (like the one above), colorblock shifts, and sexy takes on the little black dress. The fashion darling's pieces are \$79 or less, so run to stores as quickly as you can. [uniqlo.com](http://uniqlo.com)



## LONDON

**GREENER PASTURES** Did you know Hello Kitty is a vegan? Neither did we! Check out the cute company's new Loungefly collection of vegan Union Jack-clad wallets and totes at the eco-friendly online shop Alternative Outfitters. [alternativeoutfitters.com](http://alternativeoutfitters.com)

# NEWS

DESIGNERS, SHOPS, HOT SPOTS



## LONDON

**CONSTANT GARDENER** The adorable London label Annie Greenabelle, designed by Rachel Plant (yes, plant), is made from organically grown, reclaimed, and fair trade fabrics in fun party dresses, soft striped shirts, and this snappy little raincoat. The collection is named after the designer's nana. [equaclothing.com](http://equaclothing.com)







## LONDON

**BIRD BRAIN** Artist Tamsin Howells designs bird brooches, inspired by 1930s foil pictures, out of discarded candy wrappers. She'll even customize a pin if you send her your pet cockatoo's dropped feathers. [tamsinhowells.com](http://tamsinhowells.com)



## LOS ANGELES

**JEAN POOL** Eco denim line Aristocrat, which is launching dresses for spring, is also pairing with five organizations to combat, among other things, AIDS and ovarian cancer. Each charity will be represented by a different color stitch on the jeans, with proceeds from purchases going to that particular cause. [aristocratdenim.com](http://aristocratdenim.com)



## NEW YORK

**GROWING TREND** The newest tote to put plastic bags out of business is My Bag Cares, and for each one purchased, a tree will be planted through the Arbor Day Foundation. [mybagcares.com](http://mybagcares.com)



## NEW YORK

**ANIMAL MAGNETISM** Rogan is on the eco prowl, with a line of organic leopard-print daywear for Target. [target.com](http://target.com)



## NEW YORK

**FUR SURE** In an attempt to be more conscientious, designer Rachel Comey is fashioning fluffy cruelty-free mittens and hats from baby alpacas that died of natural causes in Peru. [shopbird.com](http://shopbird.com)



## LOS ANGELES

**TWO FOR ONE** L.A. designer Magda Berliner teams up with NYC jewelry designer Lulu Frost—famous for reclaiming vintage jewels for her own creations—for a collection of embellished pieces for spring. Woven within Berliner's one-of-a-kind lace dresses are Frost's found vintage chains and charms. [louisboston.com](http://louisboston.com)



## NEW YORK

**ANIMAL LOVER** Charlotte Ronson handed out T-shirts (to be sold at her Mulberry Street boutique) affixed with Humane Society pins at her fall show, which also featured a delectable faux fur jacket. 212-625-9074

## MICROCREDIT AFRICA WORKS



## AFRICA

**MONEY TALKS** Benetton's latest campaign is "Africa Works," which promotes a program set up by African musician Youssou N'Dour to offer microloans to small-business owners in Senegal. "Give a man a fish, and he will eat for a day," says N'Dour. "Teach him to fish, and you feed him forever."



## SHANGHAI

**HOT AIR** The next big thing? Dresses made out of hundreds of balloons! Designers specializing in the field presented their work at Shanghai's Kim Tom International Clown Festival, images from which have recently gained a cult following among bloggers.



## LOS ANGELES

**STRIKE A POSE** Hatha Flow yoga enthusiast and Yoli Poli designer Yolanda Grutter has an organic fashion line for kids who like downward dog and clever yoga bags (already a hit with celebs) for adults. [yolipoli.com](http://yolipoli.com)



## LOS ANGELES

**SOY SAUCY** Kriska designer Krisabelle Tan (formerly of Chip & Pepper), who has had her own line since 2005, goes green for the first time this spring with a special collection of trenches, minidresses, and smock tops in luxe fabrics made from soy and bamboo and colored with environmentally friendly dyes. [fredsega.com](http://fredsega.com)

All still lifes: Vicente Pouso; balloon dress: courtesy of Kriska; Kriska dress: courtesy of Paul Belanger; Kriska dress: courtesy of Kriska; remaining images: courtesy of the designers and artists

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# TELL TALE

Frank Tell offers a sneak peek at his mod sculptural masterpieces for fall



Designer Tell at Freemans Sporting Club in New York with friends in looks from his fall collection



Love

Brooks

As a boy of eight daydreaming along the leafy boulevards of Barcelona, Frank Tell stumbled upon a cluttered fabric shop that would become his Neverland. For the next four years, he tucked away in the shop's back room learning to sew. "I'd stay for hours," he says. "I'd sneak from school, and my mother wouldn't be able to find me." It was there that Tell promised himself he would have his own label by the age of 21. After stints at As Four and Sue Stemp, the New York transplant has accomplished his goal. For fall (only his second season), he's created a mod, vaguely futuristic collection—black-and-white mini pinafores; oversize Mongolian-lamb-fur coats with studded belts; metallic ruffle-skirt party dresses—that has enough sex appeal for any bird worth her Louboutins and late nights. "I proved everyone wrong," says Tell—who's never taken a design course—including his mother, who shipped him off to military school in California when he was 12. Already his architectural silhouettes, such as an hourglass-shape, silk-blend shift, have the polished detail of a seasoned pro. "I wanted a body-conscious look, with seams that mold to a woman's shape," he says, explaining how he was influenced by the rebellious aristo style of '60s supermodel Penelope Tree. As for his next 20-year plan, mum's the word. But with pretty young things like fledgling jewelry designer Pamela Love and downtown party promoter Mandy Brooks already scooping up his flirty pieces, it's bound to be big. —WHITNEY VARGAS

# FOOT SOLDIER

NoLita designer Gina Ferraraccio turns dowdy do-gooder design on its head with her debut line of vegan statement shoes



(Clockwise from left) Designer Ferraraccio; two looks from Cri de Coeur's spring collection of vegan shoes

**WHO:** Gina Ferraraccio

**AGE:** 27

**WHAT:** The launch of NYC footwear line Cri de Coeur

**WHY:** Handmade paddock ankle booties, two-tone T-strap heels, and gladiator wedges that are made from vegetarian and vegan materials

**WHERE TO BUY:** The brand's wind-powered website, Cri-de-coeur.com

**SECRET INGREDIENTS:** Forgoing materials such as vinyl and PVC for sueded microfiber, cotton canvas, and nontoxic water-based glue

**HOMETOWN:** Washington, DC

**COLOR SCHEME:** Midnight, faded cornflower, and shades of sand inspired by the

New Mexican landscape  
**FAVORITE VEGAN SNACK:** Spinach salad

**INSPIRATION:** The masculine and feminine contrast of Yves Saint Laurent and Valentino

**PLAYLIST:** Band of Horses and Alice in Chains

**EXTRA CREDIT:** Ferraraccio has partnered with Carbonfund.org to offset carbon emissions by planting a tree for each pair of shoes sold. All shoes are hand-stitched in a factory in Portugal, which cuts out the energy use and pollution created by mechanical production, and all office materials and packaging are made from recycled materials.

—ALEXA BRAZILIAN



advertisement



1



2



3



4



5

# ELLE PROMOTIONS

## 1. CASSIS®

The latest CASSIS® crosses in rose, yellow, and white textured 18-karat gold...a "triple threat" luxury for every lady. CASSIS® is feminine, fine, and retro—"RETRO CHIC," that is. At select fine jewelers. Call 212.302.9441 or visit [cassissjewels.com](http://cassissjewels.com).

## 2. YES TO CARROTS

Congratulations to Chris Rountree from Dallas, Texas—the new face of Yes To Carrots. Experience moisturized, softened, shiny, gorgeous hair like never before with Yes To Carrots amazing, all-natural hair care products. Available at Walgreens.

## 3. HONDA

The Honda Civic Tour is a national concert tour with a twist—a chance to win a Honda Civic customized and autographed by the headlining act. The tour kicks off its eighth year this spring with platinum-selling band Panic At The Disco along for the ride. For more info, visit [hondacivictour.com](http://hondacivictour.com).

## 4. SCHMANCY PURSES

Where glam meets gingham, Schmancy purses feature uncommonly pretty patterns and vintage chic. Designed by Laura Bell Bundy and Erin Pata, Schmancy purses are made of funky cottons, textured wools, yummy velvets, and nostalgic costume jewelry. Bundy is currently playing Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde: The Musical* on Broadway and carries a signature Schmancy in the show. The latest line features reversible, interchangeable slipcovers so you can reinvent your look every day. Visit [schmancypurses.com](http://schmancypurses.com).

## 5. GHIRARDELLI

Introducing Ghirardelli Filled Chocolate Bars, a new line of deliciously decadent chocolate bars filled with your favorite flavors: caramel, mint, raspberry, and debuting in July, peanut butter. Satisfy your cravings for gourmet chocolate and luscious fillings with these luxurious bars, only from Ghirardelli. Available at your local retailer or at [ghirardelli.com](http://ghirardelli.com).





Founders  
Eugène Blum  
and Alice Lévy



A 1990s ad  
featuring Cybill  
Shepherd



(Left) The  
original Beluga,  
1985; (right)  
the new Beluga  
Caviar, 2008



# IN EXCESS

Swiss watch-maker Ebel's '80s cult classic, the Beluga, is reinvented for spring, captivating a brand-new kind of fast crowd

The greed decade marked the birth of the status watch (who can forget Dan Aykroyd's Louis Winthorpe III in *Trading Places* explaining to a pawnbroker that his timepiece is "the sports watch of the '80s"?), and few have created such a stir as Ebel's diamond-

sprinkled gold Beluga, born in 1985. "I remember shopkeepers ordering 10 or 12 Belugas for back stock, which was basically unheard of in the watch business at the time," says Ebel president Steven Cohen. Now, for the first time, the Beluga gets a face-lift and a new, limited-edition style called the Beluga Caviar.

Founded in 1911 by two lovers, Eugène Blum and Alice Lévy, Ebel (an acronym of their names) has always made their watches in Switzerland and for a time also produced pieces for Cartier. The company built its reputation on accessorizing the British Army in WWII with a model nicknamed the RAF, after

the Royal Air Force for which the airtight, leather-strapped watch was custom-made. The brand's next influential hit was the Beluga. Throughout the late '80s and early '90s, the Beluga was spotted on the wrists of actresses like Sharon Stone, socialites, and tennis stars (it was the '80s, after all) like Gabriela Sabatini. The model also appeared in a series of high-wattage ad campaigns, which captured Madonna, Meg Ryan, and, most memorably, Cybill Shepherd on the beach in an evening gown with a surf-casting rod—reflecting the careless glamour of the era, which we are revisiting today. A short time later, a stainless steel version of the design was

released, the first of its kind to bear diamonds—a casual display of riches that would be furiously copied afterward. And while the 2008 Beluga's design has been modernized (larger rocks, of course), the more expensive Beluga Caviar (upward of \$50,000), of which only a handful will be made, fully resurrects the bull's-eye luxury that once defined the brand. The onyx-dotted face is the standard size of Ebel's men's watches, which zeroes in on our current fascination with androgynous fashion, flanked by a yummy strap of gleaming black stingray skin, which fittingly resembles the watch's namesake. Winthorpe, we think, would approve.—ALEXA BRAZILIAN

Black watch: Len Lagrue; remaining: courtesy of Ebel



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INSIDE GEISHA GIRL, CHIC, ECO TRAVEL, SURFER BOHO, AND MORE...

# ELLESHOPS



Silk and cotton dress, **JUST CAVALLI**, \$598, at Just Cavalli, L.A.



Citrine cuff, **JOHN HARDY**, \$995, visit [johnhardy.com](http://johnhardy.com)

Ruby and emerald necklace, **MOST WANTED DESIGN BY CARLOS SOUZA**, \$3,975, visit [mostwanteddesign.com](http://mostwanteddesign.com)

## HOLIDAY GO LIGHTLY



Embroidered goatskin vest, **BALMAIN**, \$4,914, collection at Jeffrey, NYC



Bikini, **ONDADEMAR**, \$172, visit [ondademar.com](http://ondademar.com)

Woven skirt, **ETRO**, \$670, at Etro, Beverly Hills

Cotton and patent-trim platform, **CESARE PACIOTTI**, \$590, at Cesare Paciotti, NYC



Leather-trim embroidered bag, **FENDI**, \$4,050, call 800-FENDI-NY

his month, it's all about the environment—both literally and figuratively. In the following pages, we've set out to provide you with the most festive, colorful clothing options inspired by seven of the most glorious eco-friendly vacation spots (we've got some insider travel tips, too), whether it's Bali, Costa Rica, or Brazil—so wherever you go, you can leave a lighter footprint. —NINA GARCIA



Orchid diamond brooches, **TIFFANY & CO.**, price upon request, call 800-526-0679

Cotton eyelet skirt, **C'N'C COSTUME NATIONAL**, \$330, at Minx Boutique, Little Rock, AR



Postcards, clockwise from left: © Lake County Museum/Corbis; George Marx/Getty Images; the Koba Collection; Reg Speller/Getty Images; globe: Getty Images; Just Cavalli dress, Ondademar bikini, C'N'C skirt, Etro skirt (styled by Eddy Alcantara); Balmain vest: Devon Jarvis (styled by Renee Yen); remaining stills: courtesy of designer.



# havaianas®

Winter here = Summer in Brazil.  
Summer here = Summer in Brazil. Sorry.









# DESERT HEAT



Christian Lacroix

Sterling silver tear-structure necklace, **JOSH HICKEY**, \$950, collection at Opening Ceremony, NYC



Straw hat, **TOPSHOP**, \$50, visit [topshop.com](http://topshop.com)

Wool crochet cardigan, **NICOLE MILLER COLLECTION**, \$300, visit [nicolemiller.com](http://nicolemiller.com). Cotton tank, **MINT JODI ARNOLD**, \$352, at Ashby's, Springfield, MO



Leather sandals, **SIGERSON MORRISON**, \$495, at Sigerson Morrison, NYC



Cotton shorts, **BEBE**, \$98, visit [bebe.com](http://bebe.com)



Bikini top, \$79, bottom, \$84, both, **RED CARTER**, visit [everythingbutwater.com](http://everythingbutwater.com)

Fringe-trim dress, **JUST CAVALLI**, \$2,565, at Just Cavalli, Bal Harbour, FL



Cotton canvas fringed flapper dress, **LANVIN**, price upon request, at Barneys New York



Resin clutch, **TORY BURCH**, \$295, visit [toryburch.com](http://toryburch.com)



Stamped python bangles, \$145-\$195, both, **EMPORIO ARMANI**, visit [emporioarmani.com](http://emporioarmani.com)



**Green Note:**  
The luxe Sabi Sabi private reserve in South Africa's Kruger National Park is wild about ecological conservation, from wastewater disposal to indigenous plant and animal preservation. [sabisabi.com](http://sabisabi.com)



Cotton skirt, **TOPSHOP**, \$87, visit [topshop.com](http://topshop.com)

Backstage: imaxtree.com; postcard: Grant Faint/Getty Images; Cavalli dress: Just Cavalli; Lanvin dress: Lanvin; Miller jacket: Nicole Miller; Bebe shorts: Bebe; Miller jacket: Nicole Miller; Burch clutch: Tory Burch; Armani bangles: Emporio Armani; Hickey necklace: Josh Hickey; Brunet (styling by Mai Tran); Hickey necklace, Topshop hat and skirt, Armani bangles: courtesy of designers; for details, see Shopping Guide



Elizabeth Arden

DERMATechnology Division

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# BIG SKY



Suede tassel-trim jacket, **BALLY**, \$2,495, at Bally, Beverly Hills



Hand-embroidered and beaded twill silk dress, **MB BEACHCOUTURE BY MARIA BUCCELLATI**, \$928, [visil.vivre.com](http://visil.vivre.com)

Beaded necklaces, **BEN STURGILL FOR UNITED BAMBOO**, price upon request, [visil.unitedbamboo.com](http://visil.unitedbamboo.com)

Turquoise and sterling silver bracelet, **VICKI TURBEVILLE**, \$525, [visil.southwesternjewelry.net](http://visil.southwesternjewelry.net)



Suede fringe-trim beaded gloves, **LACRASIA**, \$400, [visil.lacrasia.com](http://visil.lacrasia.com)



Beaded suede vest, **EMILIO PUCCI**, \$2,765, [visil.emiliopucci.com](http://visil.emiliopucci.com). Embroidered denim shorts, **SEE BY CHLOÉ**, \$410, [visil.shopbop.com](http://visil.shopbop.com)



Bikini trimmed in Colombian Indian beads, **JOHANNA ORTIZ**, \$110, [visil.johannaortiz.net](http://visil.johannaortiz.net)



Woven cotton bag, **TORY BURCH**, \$350, [visil.toryburch.com](http://visil.toryburch.com)



Silver bracelets, **TOUS**, \$110-\$148, [visil.tous.com](http://visil.tous.com)



Lambskin bag, **CHANEL**, \$4,895, at select Chanel Boutique nationwide



Suede boot, **JIMMY CHOO**, \$660, [visil.jimmychoo.com](http://visil.jimmychoo.com)



**Green Note:** Guests at the bucolic Lodge at Sun Ranch in southern Montana can commune with nature on the 26,000-acre sustainable cattle farm, and sleep in luxury tents under the stars. [sunranchlodge.com](http://sunranchlodge.com)

Backstage: [inaxtree.com](http://inaxtree.com); postcard: © Morey Milbradt/Corbis; brown dress, Tory Burch bag, Tous bracelets, Chanel bag, Pucci vest, turquoise bracelet, Bally jacket, United Bamboo necklaces, Ortiz bikini, Yaya skirt; Mark Platt (styling by Eddie Alcantara); Lacrasia gloves; See by Chloé shorts; Devon Jarvis (styled by Renee Yen); Jimmy Choo boot; courtesy of designer; for details, see Shopping Guide



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Silk shirt, UNDERCOVER, \$2,216, at Susan, Burlingame, CA

Cotton-blend printed trousers, DIESEL, \$350 each, at Diesel, NYC



Spandex scuba shirt, ETRO, \$385, at Etro, NYC



Cotton zip-front dress, MOSCHINO CHEAP AND CHIC, \$750, at Bergdorf Goodman, NYC



Leather lobster key ring, MULBERRY, \$135, at Mulberry, NYC



Merino wool crewneck top, VERA WANG LAVENDER LABEL, \$325, at Vera Wang, NYC



Denim hot shorts, BABY PHAT BY KIMORA LEE SIMMONS, \$59, visit babyphat.com

Brass pins, GIORGIO ARMANI, \$625-\$725, at Giorgio Armani Boutique nationwide



Bikini with buckle, SHAY TODD, \$198, at Shay Todd, Manhattan Beach, CA

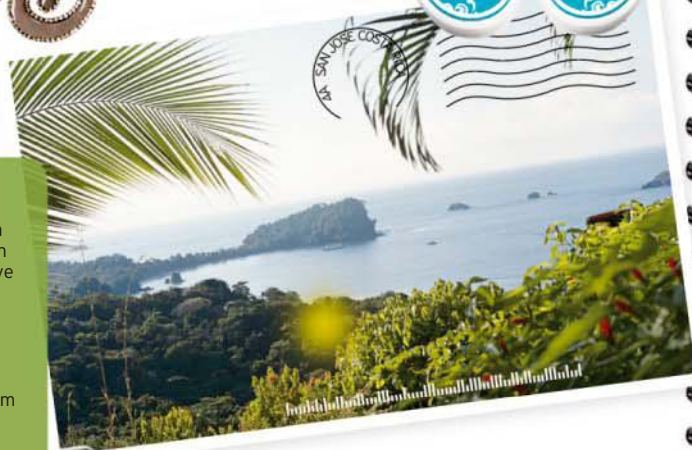


Canvas sneakers, VANS, \$50, visit vans.com



Rope-handle tote, OLD NAVY, \$13, at Old Navy stores nationwide

**Green Note:** Enjoy the view at Finca Rosa Blanca Country Inn, which is 4,000 feet above sea level, and the food, which is sourced from their own local farm and includes organic coffee from the sustainable plantation. [finca-rblanca.co.cr](http://finca-rblanca.co.cr)



Backstage: Greg Kessler; postcard: Coto Elizandro/Getty Images; Undercover dress: Todd bikini, Old Navy tote, Baby Phat shorts: Devon Jarvis (styling by Renee Yen); Diesel pants, Vans, Wang top, Moschino dress, Etro top: Mark Platt (styling by Eddie Alcantara); fish: Armani, Mulberry lobster: courtesy of designers; for details, see Shopping Guide



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# LATIN CLASS



Ralph Lauren

Silk dress, **BLUMARINE**, \$1,800, collection at select Saks Fifth Avenue



Woven cotton ribbon belt, **KRISTIN KAHLE**, \$98, visit [kristinkahle.com](http://kristinkahle.com)



Embroidered cotton cap sleeve dress, **OLD NAVY**, \$35, visit [oldnavy.com](http://oldnavy.com). Silk crepe georgette blouse, **NICOLE MILLER COLLECTION**, \$300, visit [nicolemiller.com](http://nicolemiller.com)



Cotton bag, **TRUE RELIGION**, \$398, visit [truereigionbrandjeans.com](http://truereigionbrandjeans.com)



Topaz coin ring, **JOHN HARDY**, \$450, call 888-838-3022



Floral embroidered cotton skirt, **H&M**, \$40, visit [hm.com](http://hm.com)



Bikini with recycled cotton trimming, **JOHANNA ORTIZ**, \$110, visit [johannaortiz.net](http://johannaortiz.net)



Bikini, **MOSCHINO**, \$350, at Uccelli, Cedarhurst, NY



Leather cutout pump, **GIORGIO ARMANI**, \$610, at Giorgio Armani Boutique nationwide



Embroidered wedge sandal, **L'AUTRE CHOSE**, \$309, at Addison Craig, Sarasota, FL



Orchid-print bag, **ESCADA**, \$1,750, at Escada Boutique nationwide



## Green Note:

Each of the 15 thatch-roof bungalows at the Yucatán Peninsula's Hotel Eco Paraíso Xixim is powered by solar energy and has a private patio overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. [www.ecoparaiso.com](http://www.ecoparaiso.com)



Backstage: Greg Kessler; postcards: © Patrick Frillet/Corbis; Old Navy top, Nicole Miller top, Johanna Ortiz bikini, Moschino bikini, Blumarine dress: Mark Platt (styling by Eddie Alcantara); H&M skirt, L'autre wedge, True Religion bag: Devon Jarvis (styling by Renee Yen); ring, Armani shoe, Spade sandals, Escada tote: courtesy of the designers; for details, see Shopping Guide





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# BALI HIGH



Diane von Furstenberg

Jungle-print silk dress, **MATTHEW WILLIAMSON**, \$2,960, visit [www.matthewwilliamson.com](http://www.matthewwilliamson.com)



Necklace, **BANANA REPUBLIC**, \$69, visit [bananarepublic.com](http://bananarepublic.com)



Cotton T-shirt, **CUSTO BARCELONA**, \$436, at select Saks Fifth Avenue

Floral-print linen skirt with bead trim, **H&M**, \$50, at select H&M stores nationwide



Resin cuffs, **MARNI**, \$402-\$588, at Marni, NYC



Stone-trim raffia tote, **SALVATORE FERRAGAMO**, \$3,650, at Salvatore Ferragamo, NYC

Tassel-trim wrapped-cotton sandals, **BC FOOTWEAR**, \$65 each, at Fred Segal Feed, L.A.



Polyester and mirror headbands, **MISSONI**, \$140 each, at Missoni Boutique, NYC



Floral-print silk skirt, **DRIES VAN NOTEN**, \$950, visit [www.driesvannoten.be](http://www.driesvannoten.be)



Diamond and coral earrings, **ARMENTA**, \$1,880, at Cindi Earl Fine Jewelry, Nashville



Embellished swimsuit, **ROSA CHÁ**, \$330, at Rosa Chá, Miami



Stone and leather sandal, **SERGIO ROSSI**, \$2,100, visit [sergiorossi.com](http://sergiorossi.com)



**Green Note:** The thatched beachfront Puri Ganesha Villas in northern Bali are constructed from reclaimed and renewable materials and offer organic food, including drinking water from a local volcanic spring. [puriganeshabali.com](http://puriganeshabali.com)



Backstage: inaxtree.com; postcard: © Moonboard/Corbis; Banana Republic necklaces: Ferragamo bag: Armenta earrings: courtesy of designers; H&M skirt, Rosa swimsuit, Rossi sandal, Dries skirt, Missoni headbands, Williamson dress: Mark Platt (styling by Eddie Alcantara); BC sandals: Custo shirt: Devon Jarvis (styling by Renee Yen); for details, see Shopping Guide



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# RIO-CENTRIC



Alexander McQueen



Beaded swimsuit, EMILIO PUCCI, \$1,505, at Emilio Pucci stores nationwide



Brass beaded evening bag, GIORGIO ARMANI, price upon request, at Giorgio Armani Boutique nationwide

Floral cotton voile gown, DIANE VON FURSTENBERG, \$425, at Diane von Furstenberg, NYC



Silk cotton cardigan, TORY BURCH, \$225, visit toryburch.com



Bikini top, \$50, bottom, \$50, both, PITAHAYA SWIMSUITS, visit pitahayaiswimsuits.com



The geometric pattern on this bikini was designed by Necoclí women in Colombia using traditional "mola" stitching.

Cotton sundress, ZIMMERMAN, \$294, at select Saks Fifth Avenue



Gold and precious stone earrings, H.STERN, \$5,400, at H.Stern, NYC



Flip-flops, HAVAIANAS, \$17, visit havaianas.com



Silk printed dress, GINNY H BY GINNY HILFIGER, \$690, at Bergdorf Goodman, NYC



Wicker pineapple bag, HOLLYWOOD, \$495, call 212-219-1905



## Green Note:

Not only did the owners of Brazil's Tauana resort, which consists of nine waterfront bungalows, plant 30,000 trees to offset construction—they also built a water treatment system, a produce garden, and open-air rooms that eliminate the need for energy-sucking fans. tauana.com

Backstage: Greg Kessler; postcard: © Charles Briscoe-Knight/Corbis; DVF dress, flip-flops, bikini, Pucci swimsuit, and Zimmerman dress: Mark Platt (styling by Eddy Alcantara); Ginny H dress: Devon Jarvis (styling by Renee Teny; Hollywood bag: courtesy of designers; for details, see Shopping Guide)





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INSIDE HELEN HUNT GOES INDIE, GNARLS BARKLEY GETS ODDER, LOUISE ERDRICH'S LATEST, AND MORE...

# ELLE INTELLIGENCE

**WHO:** Ben Barnes

**AGE:** 26

**WHY NOW:** After a casting agent caught Barnes in London's West End production of *The History Boys*, he invited the British actor to audition for the book-to-celluloid juggernaut *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Three weeks later, Barnes landed the lead role in this month's *Prince Caspian*—a careermaking gig of *Potter*-esque proportions.

**WHY HE'LL LAST:** Though he'll carry the next two *Narnia* installments as the film's sword-wielding highness, he's keeping one foot in the real world by costarring alongside Jessica "The Body" Biel in the upcoming big-screen adaptation of the Noel Coward play *Easy Virtue*.

**CHOOSE OR LOOSE:** Risking legal retaliation from the National Theatre, Barnes broke his contract and left *The History Boys* early to sign a multi-film deal with Disney. "I've been going to the National Theatre since I was 10; it had always been my dream to work with them," he says, "but [*Narnia*] wasn't an opportunity that I felt I could pass up and live with myself afterward."

**HIS LITTLE WHITE LIE:** When asked in his audition if he had any equestrian training, Barnes (whose first—and last—time on horseback was when he was eight years old) wisely chose to massage the truth. "I didn't pretend to be an expert, but I might have suggested that I had *some* experience. I certainly wasn't going to lose this job because of my horse-riding abilities!"

**AND THOSE FLOWING LOCKS?** "My hair was cut short for *History Boys*, so I had to get hair extensions."

—CORRIE PIKUL

## FRESH PRINCE

In his bid to become *Narnia* royalty, Ben Barnes abandoned the London stage, endured hair extensions, and fibbed about his equestrian expertise. All hail Hollywood's new royal

Photographed by Matt Holyoak (styling by Susie Lloyd; groomer: Alex Price at Soho Management)





First blood: (From left) *Son of Rambow*'s Milner and Poulter; Milner on-set; Westwick

# THE HEARTBREAK KIDS

*Rambow* might just be better than the original. Plus, Ellen Page's *Juno* casts a long shadow. Karen Durbin reviews

When *Son of Rambow* screened at Sundance last year, a bidding war erupted for distribution rights, won by Paramount with a buzz-making \$7.5 million offer. Not bad for a star-free British indie about a pair of friendless 12-year-old schoolboys in the trend-crazy '80s. Written and directed by Garth Jennings and produced by Nick Goldsmith, music-video maestros whose feature debut was *A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* (2005), the movie is a crowd-pleasing comedy that's not afraid to play rough. The boys are walking wounded: The artistic, twig-thin Will (Bill Milner) has lost his father and is growing up in a religious sect so strict it makes the *Big Love* folks look like party animals. But at least he has a loving mother; the furious and far less sympathetic Carter (Will Poulter) has been left to run wild along with his obnoxious older brother (*Gossip Girl*'s Ed Westwick) by their feckless, well-to-do parents, who have gone on permanent vacation. Carter bullies Will at first, but they end up partners, secretly creating the misspelled action movie of the title and in the process changing each other's lives. Aided by the utterly natural performances of their novice actors, Jennings and Goldsmith make real the way children sometimes save themselves, especially if they have lively imaginations (and a purloined camcorder) to wield against the world's harms and insults.



Jules Sitruk as a French exchange student in *Rambow*

Like *Hitchhiker*, *Son of Rambow* is visually inventive, but with a lighter, more focused touch. Will's daredevil stunts for the film—within-the-film are high cinematic slapstick, and a broodingly cool exchange student from Paris who inserts himself into their movie is an amusing homage to the French New Wave. Scenes in which Will's drawings come to life and segue seamlessly into reality have their own exhilaration: We're watching his thoughts become creations. But the filmmakers' best invention is the big black book

of drawings that he keeps hidden from adult eyes. It's page after page of explosions, battles, and people going down in flames. Typical kid stuff—still, this is the inside of Will's head: images of disaster and

death. Early on, we see that the action-packed book is actually his bible. It's the filmmakers' bible too. For all its playful exuberance, *Son of Rambow* celebrates not just the joy of making art but the necessity.

Two movies featuring Ellen Page are surfing the wake of *Juno*'s nine-figure haul at the box office: the mainstream indie *Smart People* and the Canadian art film *The Tracey Fragments*. Neither entirely succeeds, but Page completists should check them out. In Noam Murro's *Smart People*, she plays Vanessa, anxious teenage daughter of Dennis Quaid's Lawrence Wetherhold, a burned-out lit professor permanently embittered by his wife's death. Anxious to please, Vanessa apes his erudition and styles herself a coldhearted Republican. Help arrives with Sarah Jessica Parker's Janet, a kind emergency-room doctor who treats the head wound Lawrence incurs through his own rage, and Thomas Haden Church's Chuck, Lawrence's terminally raffish brother. Every time Church shambles on-screen, the movie becomes the edgy, emotional comedy intended: When Chuck introduces Vanessa to the joys of weed only to have her fall for him, it's funny, alarming, and a bit sad. But Lawrence is too sour to deserve Janet, and the movie shortchanges Page's crisp performance with lackluster dialogue. *Juno*'s ghost haunts the film.



*Smart People*'s Page and Church

That's not a problem in Bruce McDonald's *The Tracey Fragments*, which splits the screen and scrambles the narrative to suggest the fracturing psyche of its 15-year-old protagonist. Tracey Berkowitz hates her body, calls herself Zerowitz, and has awful parents and a vanished 10-year-old brother who barks like a dog. The story's intermittent thread is Tracey's guilty search for him, leavened by daydreams about a teenage hipster at her school. Evoking desperation verging on despair, Page keeps you watching, but the multi-image screen grows tiresome. A pity, because her overwhelmed teen is a heartbreaking creation, and the causes of her crack-up—revealed in a superb full-screen sequence—make such a powerful ending you wish McDonald had found a better way to get there. ●

Son of Rambow: courtesy of Paramount Vantage; Smart People: courtesy of Miramax; Hard Candy: © Lions Gate/courtesy of the Everett Collection

## SUBPLOT



Hard Candy

Another side of indie superstar Ellen Page is on view in the scary-as-hell 2005 psychothriller *Hard Candy*. Page plays a tough, wily 14-year-old who

uses the Net to snare a fashion photographer (Patrick Wilson) she believes preys on his pretty young subjects. Once in his home, she ties him down

and payback begins. Page's performance is a tour de force of merciless cool, but what really raises goose bumps is that sweet baby face.—K.D.



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# RAISING HELEN

Mamma Mia: Hunt and Midler; Broderick, Firth, Hunt, and Rushdie (above right)

We haven't heard from her in a while, but **Helen Hunt** has emerged victorious after taking on a triple role—director, writer, and star—in her own indie film

As an Emmy- and Oscar-winning star, Helen Hunt has taken home paychecks bigger than the approximately \$3 million budget for *Then She Found Me*, the captivating first feature she wrote and directed. “I tried for more money, but I got more no’s than I’ve ever had in my life,” she says. “So I called in favors, hired good people, and shot it in 27 days.” Not only does the soulful, dark-edged comedy boast stellar performances by Hunt, Colin Firth, Matthew Broderick, and Bette Midler, but its gala premiere at the Toronto film festival last fall brought 2,000 people to their feet.

Hunt plays the prickly April Eppner, a

married, 39-year-old Jewish grade school art teacher who, an adoptee herself, is anxiously trying to have a baby when she’s slammed by jolting losses. Then a popular local talk-show host (Midler) barges chattily into her shell-shocked life announcing that she’s her birth mother and wants to connect, failing to notice that April is so thin and drawn she looks almost starved. “I was going for the absolute antithesis of glamour,” Hunt says. “I thought, Do I cheat a little bit? It’s a romantic comedy. And then I thought, No, and dove into the character.” Although Firth’s single dad is hovering in the classroom door, Hunt has made a



different sort of rom-com—one that can tear your heart in half with a scene of a desperate woman softly singing a Hebrew prayer. “It’s a story about mothering and daughtering,” she says. “But the movie under the movie is about betrayal: by her mother, her husband, a betrayal that she perpetrates, a betrayal by God. She begins the movie with faith, and that faith has to be completely decimated.”

April’s fertility doctor is played by the novelist Salman Rushdie—a classy celebrity coup, but it grew out of serious intentions. “It was important to me that although the movie is in part about God, that it not simply be a Judeo-Christian god,” Hunt says. “I thought if the doctor was Indian, it might imply different kinds of prayer. I saw a number of Indian actors, then Salman asked to audition. He was the best, and I was thrilled to have him.”

Hunt’s effort to turn Elinor Lipman’s 1991 novel into a film 10 years ago went nowhere. “But it stayed with me, and when I started thinking about April again, I was in my own baby-wish time,” she says, adding that in the book there are no competing men and no baby craving. Hunt’s story is the real romance. She and producer Matthew Carnahan were together 15 years ago but split up and married other people (in Hunt’s case, Hank Azaria). Six and a half years ago they reunited. They divide their time between Los Angeles and Hawaii with Matthew’s 10-year-old son and their four-year-old daughter. Now 44, Hunt has another script—“about an even more difficult woman,” she says, laughing. “It’s my idea of a perfect life to be a stay-at-home mom and once in a while do a part or make a movie that I absolutely love.” —K.D.

Then She Found Me: courtesy of ThinkFilm; Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Glen Wilson/Universal Pictures; Surfwise: courtesy of Falco Ink; Roman de Gare: courtesy of Samuel Goldwyn Films

## TRUST US

Forgetting Sarah Marshall



## WHAT TO SEE NOW

## FUNNY GAMES

Jason Segel’s freshly dumped composer flees to Hawaii only to find his TV-star ex (Kristen Bell) and her hot new rocker boyfriend (hilarious Brit comedian Russell Brand) loving it up at his hotel. Mila Kunis’ pretty, hotheaded concierge is on hand to spice things up. **Forgetting Sarah Marshall** may be second-shelf Apatow, but it’s the fun factory’s most woman-friendly comedy yet: low on gross-out yuks, high on charm, and it still keeps the belly laughs coming.



## FAMILY TIDES

Doug Pray’s riveting, timely documentary **Surfwise** explores a charismatic, once-famous surfing clan led by maverick physician “Doc” Paskowitz and wife Juliette, loving ecotourists who raised their nine children off the social and economic grid, eating green, disdaining materialism, and chasing the waves in the battered 24-foot camper they all called home. Ratting out their folks, the kids deliver a verdict that’s fiercely, fascinatingly mixed.



## ANALYZE THIS

Nothing is what it seems in the clever **Roman de Gare**, a comeback for veteran director Claude Lelouch (who made the 1966 worldwide hit *A Man and a Woman*). Fanny Ardant’s famous mystery novelist may not write her books, while funny-face Dominique Pinon just might—unless he’s a recently escaped serial killer. Then there’s the chillingly brilliant scene in which we overhear a hideous crime. Or do we? —K.D.





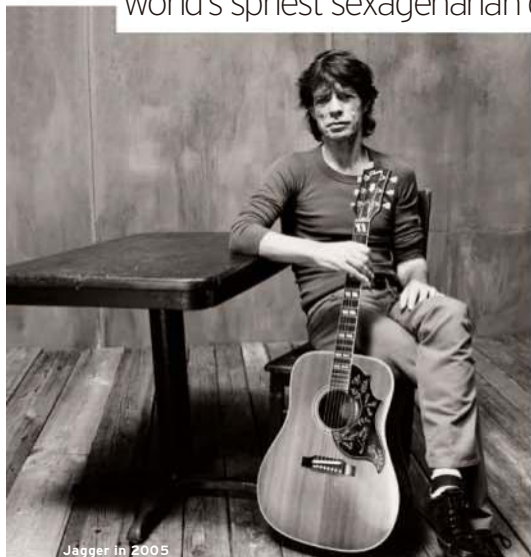


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# MICK LOVIN'

Mick Jagger pouts, preens, pounces, and points his way through **Martin Scorsese's** new Rolling Stones concert film, *Shine a Light*. Andrew Goldman finds out where the world's spriest sexagenarian gets all that onstage mojo



Jagger in 2005



Bandmates Jagger and Richards, 1967



1979



Onstage with Richards, 1965



1969

**ELLE:** I felt exhausted watching you onstage in *Shine a Light*. You're not lacking in energy....

**MICK JAGGER:** I was at the screening at the Berlin Film Festival, and I must say, I was a bit exhausted watching it.

**ELLE:** Do you dislike watching yourself perform?

**MJ:** In the editing room, you can dissociate yourself from the footage. But when it's on the big screen and you're watching with an audience, dissociating yourself is much more difficult. You're thinking, Wouldn't it have been better if I'd done this or that?

**ELLE:** Do you have fleeting moments in the midst of jumping around the stage when it occurs to you what a bizarre way it is you make your living?

**MJ:** No. If you start drifting off, you'll make a mistake, so you have to pull yourself back. You have to banish thoughts like, Oh, God, I must make that call about the bedroom curtains. If you don't, you'll lose concentration completely.

**ELLE:** Was there anything about the way you work onstage that seemed incompatible with how Scorsese wanted to shoot?

**MJ:** In the beginning, I don't think Marty realized that I never really know where I'm going to be on the stage. He'd say, "Where will you be on the second verse of song number five?" And I'd say, "Marty, I don't work like that." Once he under-

stood, he was fine.

**ELLE:** Madonna is famous for having the air-conditioning turned down when she's performing to protect her vocal cords. Do you have particular venue requirements?

**MJ:** I don't like playing after a big circus has been in. We were playing in Quebec once and I got an allergy from all the straw and elephant dung or whatever was left in the arena.

**ELLE:** Is that in your tour rider?

**MJ:** No, but that's a good idea: "No elephant shit the night before."

**ELLE:** Watching the film, I was struck by how universally skinny the Rolling Stones are. On a scale, the group probably wouldn't weigh 500 pounds.

**MJ:** And if we kept the air-conditioning off, we'd weigh even less. We'd waste away to nothing. But I think it's because we were all raised in the last century. It is probably the diet we grew up with.

**ELLE:** At the end of the 1975 tour, Keith Richards was quoted as saying, "I've had two showers and one bath since the start of the tour, and I still smell sweeter than Jagger."



1973

**MJ:** Shocking!

**ELLE:** Have the bathing rules on tour changed since then?

**MJ:** They have. Everyone has to get in the shower directly after the show. And that's including Keith.



The face of TAL, Ira Glass

## SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW THIS AMERICAN LIFE?

Brainy hipsters and casual intellectuals, rejoice! Ira Glass, host and producer of the much fawned-over radio show *This American Life*, returns this month with the TV version, now in its second season on Showtime. The bookish heartthrob has a knack for artfully unspooling relentlessly unpredictable true-life stories that prompt us to ask, "Nuh-uh?" So much so, we say put your gullibility to the test: Three of these upcoming *TAL* episodes are real and three are not. Can you tell which ones are bona fide Ira Glass tales?—**NINA WEISS**



**1** An Iraqi resolving to talk to Americans about the war takes a cross-country road trip and sets up a "Talk to an Iraqi" booth in various cities.

A 42-year-old Florida woman shocks her friends and family by marrying Brad—her 23-foot-long pet python.



**3** Two convicts in Wisconsin attempt to escape using ladders made of dental floss.

A man obsesses over his model-size fictitious Belgian town set in World War II, built to one-sixth scale and named Marwencol.



**5** In upstate New York, a woman decides to make history by creating her own religion, Maryology.

In Salt Lake City, former high school sweethearts pretend to get married and be dutiful Mormons to please their dying parents.



REAL: 1, 3, 4





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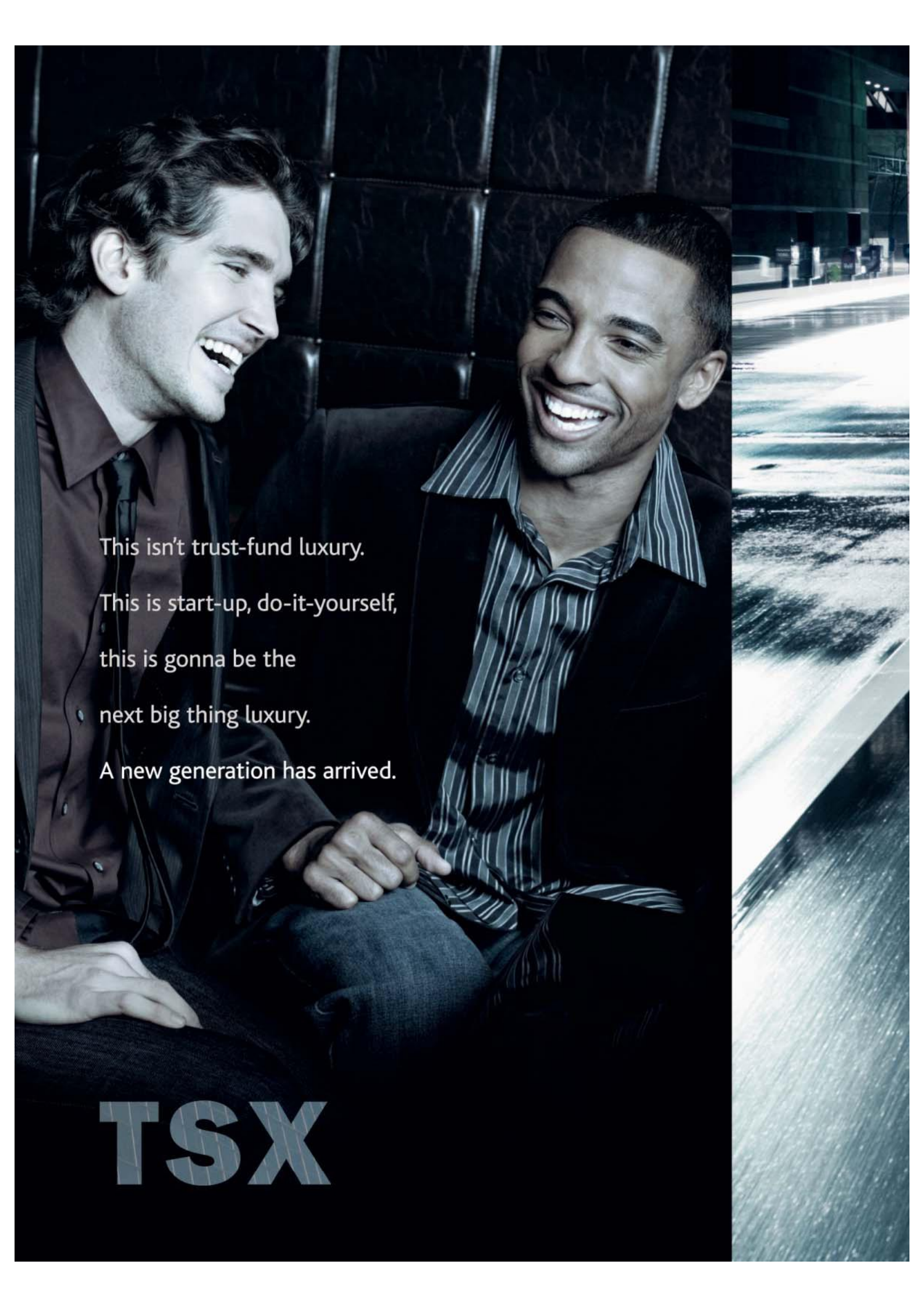


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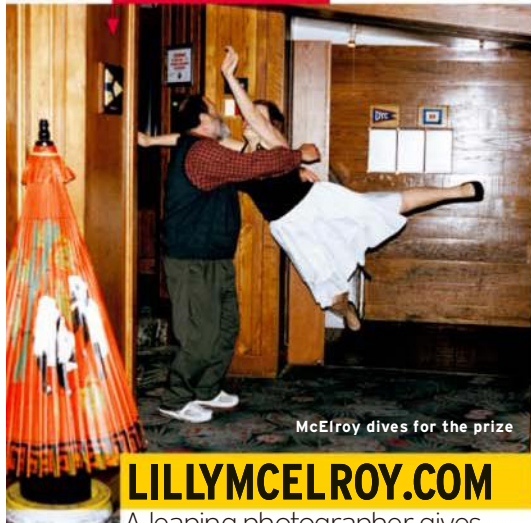


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McElroy dives for the prize

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Lilly McElroy isn't afraid to throw herself at men—literally. For the past two years, the 28-year-old performance artist and photographer has been lunging at strangers in bars around the country while a friend snaps photos of her midair act and then posting the pictures on Lillymcelroy.com. Officially titled "I Throw Myself at Men," the online series is a mix of physical comedy and postfeminist challenges to gender stereotypes—a sly inversion of the traditional power dynamic in the pickup scene. "If a woman tries to form a romantic connection, she's automatically considered desperate, and I don't agree with that," she says. "Plus, I have a bizarrely good vertical leap."—JOANNA GODDARD

## GUESS WHO'S COMING TO BROADWAY?

As the Great White Way experiments with color-blind casting, **Jesse Green** explains why African-American actors aren't the only ones who benefit

Though the practice has long been common at regional theaters, color-blind casting, in which actors are hired regardless of race, has mostly been a no-show on Broadway. Oh, you'd spot a dark-skinned actor in the occasional



Howard and Rose in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*

Shakespeare role or as a critter in a chorus line courtesy of Disney. And characters written as African-American have of course been played as such since the bad old days of blackface. But the presumed prejudice of audiences—and the currently favored realistic style of production—has meant that you'd almost never see a black person play a nonblack character on the aptly named Great White Way.

Then, in January, as I watched S. Epatha Merkerson and Kevin Anderson portray a 1950s Midwest couple in *Come Back, Little Sheba* without so much as a nod to their different races, I realized things were

changing. The season continued just as colorfully, and not only in shows (such as *Passing Strange* and *Thurgood*) in which the characters are specifically black. In April, another classic midcentury American drama got the mixed-marriage twist, when *The Country Girl* opened with Frances McDormand as the wife of Morgan Freeman. Perhaps most eye-opening, this spring's revival of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*—a play about a specific class of white Southern gentry—featured an all-black cast led by Terrence Howard and Anika Noni Rose.

As no doubt intended, such casting had a salutary effect on black audiences, but I'd argue it was also good for everyone who cares about theater. After so many pale Cats, isn't it possible a dark one might offer something new? More importantly, when the actor's race seems to dissolve as an issue—which, when I watched Merkerson inhabit *Sheba*, took about five minutes—doesn't that tell us something important, and hopeful, about where we are headed as a country?

So while you won't see Paris Hilton in *Dreamgirls* anytime soon, don't be surprised if the picture of America you do see on Broadway next time looks a little bit more like, well, America.

TRUST US

## THIS MONTH'S BEST MUSIC



Gnarls Barkley's Cee-Lo and Danger Mouse make beautiful music together

### BACK TO THE FUTURE



Gnarls Barkley's mammoth 2006 hit "Crazy" was craftily produced by DJ Danger Mouse and given gravitas by preacher-from-another-planet Cee-Lo. Their second album, *The Odd Couple*, sets Motown urgency (see the Temptations) and elegies (see Marvin Gaye) to ultracurrent beats—again providing pop junkies with soul music that's firmly rooted in this century.



### LAWLESS POWER POP



*Elephant Shell*, Tokyo Police Club's first full-length album, should serve as a warning to Pete Wentz: Eyeliner does not a guitar pop legend make. The Canadian quartet has crafted a smart, furiously played, sugar-rush debut that sounds like it was inspired by Red Bull benders and unrequited love.



### TIME TO GET PUNKY



Liverpool band Clinic has made its name by fusing psychedelia and postpunk artiness into whirlpooling, vertiginous rock. On *Do It!* they still sound like a garage band exhumed from a London basement circa 1967, but they occasionally give themselves over to folk visions of marshmallow skies to sweeten up their surrealism.



### LOVE'S A TRIP-HOP



The same British trio who helped introduce trip-hop to the musical vocabulary has made an album that, like Radiohead's best work, makes programmed paranoia a seductive rabbit hole to disappear into. Portishead's *Third* floats Beth Gibbons' ghostly croon over fierce, leveling blasts of guitar, and the rhythms swing from funk to folk.



### PAIR OF ACES



They're two white boys from Akron, Ohio, but like the White Stripes, another drum-guitar duo that came from the Midwest, the Black Keys play the blues like they're possessed by older, swamplier Southern spirits. *Attack & Release*, their fifth album, is another impressively sure bolt of electrified sorrow and joy.—CARLENE BAUER



Top left: Lilly McElroy; top right: courtesy of the production company; Gnarls Barkley: Jeremy and Claire Weiss; albums: courtesy of record companies



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## NATIVE AFFINITIES

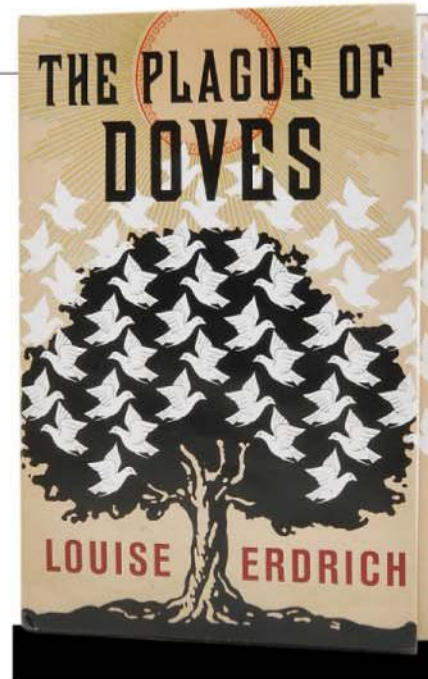
An emblematic American talent conjures a North Dakota saga fueled by blood, race, and a fading memory of worlds in collision

Across 13 novels, Louise Erdrich, a fearless and inventive writer, has created a unique species of American magic realism, interweaving mysticism with storytelling that unfolds and operates on multiple levels, at once mythic and down-to-earth, set in places both fantastic and viscerally specific. Her stories of Native American life are often violent, beautiful, funny, moving, and unexpected.

*The Plague of Doves* (Harper), her most complex, ambitious, and interesting work yet, expertly moves forward and backward in time and encompasses the family histories of most of the small town of Pluto, North Dakota, and the nearby Ojibwe reservation. It opens with the mysterious murder of a family in 1911. Only a baby is spared; the victims, survivor, and killer are not identified. The novel spirals outward from this killing and the vengeance that follows it.

Several narrators take turns unraveling this strange, intricate story. Evelina Harp, a smart, spirited, perceptive preadolescent part-Ojibwe girl, falls in love twice in one year—first with a white boy in her class, then with her teacher, Sister Mary Anita, who resembles Godzilla. Evelina's grandfather, Mooshum—a sly and entertaining yarn-spinner, a classic trickster character, a drinker, a flirt, and possibly a not entirely reliable narrator—helps her understand her connection to everyone involved in the murder as well as the two current objects of her affection. And Judge Antone Bazil Coutts is given to revealing much of the history of the town by recounting the vicissitudes of his own love life.

There is a magic violin, a kidnapping that gives rise to a religious cult, a drug trip, and a stint in a mental hospital. The characters are unabashedly passionate; feelings run high in a nineteenth-century manner

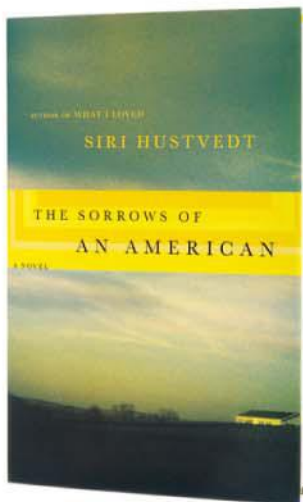


perfectly in keeping with the tone and spirit of the book. By the end, we not only know the solution to the murder, but also know, intimately, a brilliant, enigmatic swath of quasi-imaginary America.

—KATE CHRISTENSEN



Erdrich



## OF THE LIVING AND THE DREAD

In Siri Hustvedt's fourth novel, *The Sorrows of an American* (Henry Holt), therapist Erik Davidsen has been left by his wife in a Brooklyn brownstone and is drawn to his downstairs tenant, a Jamaican-American artist and single mother—and soon finds himself being stalked by her alarmingly unstable baby-daddy ex. Meanwhile, his bohemian-intellectual sister, Inga, and her daughter discover that they are being circled by literary vultures intent on picking apart the unlovely indiscretions of her late

husband, a celebrated novelist and screenwriter. After the death in rural Minnesota of their father, Lars, Erik and Inga are also confronted by evidence that, as a young Norwegian immigrant in the northern plains, he may have been involved in some domestic horror worthy of a weird old folk song.

Hustvedt, who is married to the famously smoldering writer Paul Auster, knows something about laboring under a penumbra of authorial celebrity. She also presents passages from her own late father's notebooks—about surviving the Great Depression on a humble farm and fighting in the Pacific in World War II, for example—as entries from Lars' meticulously diarized life.

If *Sorrows*, which largely steers clear of the plot points and resolutions of a conventional suspense novel, slows down in the wrong places and ends up feeling a bit lumpy, it still succeeds as a jarring, long-echoing evocation of the existential vertigo induced by the loss of those whom we miss most desperately, and thus of our place in their world.

—BEN DICKINSON



Hustvedt

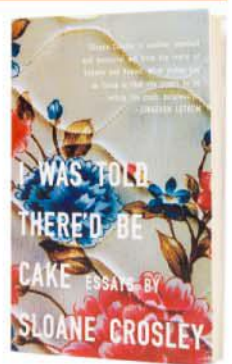
## I'LL TAKE MANHATTAN (IF IT'S STILL AVAILABLE)

In her debut collection of essays, *I Was Told There'd Be Cake* (Riverhead), Sloane Crosley writes a good deal about the travails of being a young single woman in New York City. But she does not, thank God, feel bad about her neck. Or about her weight. Or about debt she's incurred from shoe-buying binges.

What *does* she feel bad about? About never having had a proper one-night stand. ("And I wasn't about to walk into a crowded sports bar and scream, 'I've got 20 minutes and one expired condom. Who's in?'"") About playing maid of honor to a high-school friend with whom she hasn't spoken in years. ("Out of all the girlfriends in all the world, what made her call out like a foghorn for mine?") Also, about being "morally lethargic."

This last is what makes Crosley's book a welcome departure from the increasingly tired genre of first-person prose as stand-up comedy. Unlike David Sedaris (*I went to Anne Frank's house and all I got was real-estate lust!*) and other hugely successful practitioners, Crosley forces herself up against not her exquisite selfishness but some ideal she's grasping for—female camaraderie, neighborliness, sanity. She's also got a sharp, fizzily old-fashioned sense of the madcap that, in the best pieces, has you thinking that she's figured how to cross Mary Tyler Moore with Kingsley Amis—as well as wondering, now that she's updated the role of ingenue by concocting a bracing cocktail of credulity and crankiness, what she might be able to do with a novel.

—CARLENE BAUER



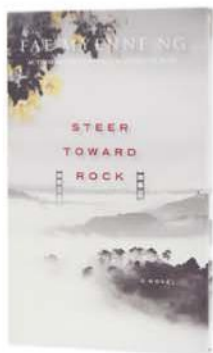
Crosley



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# ROCK AND A HARD PLACE

When *Bone*, Fae Myenne Ng's debut novel, about a Chinese-American family in San Francisco dealing with a daughter's suicide, was

published in 1993, Amy Tan's *The Joy Luck Club* had already conquered best-seller lists. While critics raved about *Bone*'s mix of poignancy and grit and its unusual structure (memories are revealed out of sequence), Ng made a small ripple compared with Tan's cannonball splash. She didn't seize the moment, either, taking 15 years to finish her next book.

But now, with *Steer Toward Rock* (Hyperion), Ng has the chance to step out of Tan's shadow. In San Francisco's Chinatown in the '60s,

where undocumented immigrants are being pressured to confess their status to the FBI, Jack Moon Szeto, a hardworking butcher, is struggling with a sad family history: His Chinese birth mother sold him, the adopted father who snuck him into the U.S. has practically enslaved him, the mother of his child doesn't love him, and his newly arrived "Fake Wife" is duty-bound to give his father an heir. "Obligation and Obedience, this was my Confucian curse," Jack laments. In a desperate bid to sever ties to his

father and win over the woman he loves, Jack makes a decision that backfires, with lasting consequences. Like many midcentury immigrants, Jack eventually learns that creating a new future for himself and his daughter will take more than renouncing his past. Combining elements of gangster noir, romance, grumpy-old-man comedy, and family drama, Ng finds a fresh and exciting way to tell a familiar story.

—CORRIE PIKUL



# Trust Us

• Seven stories set around the globe—from Iowa to Tehran, Manhattan to Australia, and Colombia to Hiroshima—make up Vietnam-born **Nam Le's** dynamic debut collection, *The Boat* (Knopf), in which achingly familiar alliances converge in ingeniously unlikely places.

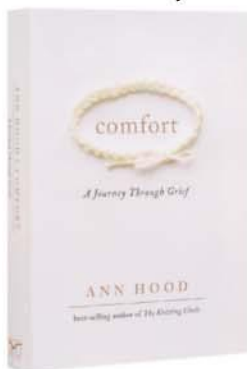
• In *A Voyage Long and Strange* (Henry Holt), **Tony Horwitz** (*Confederates in the Attic*) takes an erudite trek from the site of Florida's Fountain of Youth to New England's Plymouth Rock, revisiting the exploits of Vikings, conquistadors, French explorers, and others who trod the New World between Columbus' 1492 arrival and the Mayflower's landing in 1620.

• **Rick Bragg's** *The Prince of Frogtown* (Knopf) completes his best-selling family trilogy (*All Over But the Shoutin'*, *Ava's Man*), focusing on his lively and loving new relationship with his young stepson while also circling back to Bragg's Alabama boyhood for a bittersweet last look at the life and world of his long-gone father.—L.S.



# NO GETTING OVER THIS

A memoir of a writer's hard-won reckoning with an irredeemable cosmic injustice: the sudden loss of her young daughter



*Comfort* (Norton) is novelist **Ann Hood's** utterly harrowing, completely spellbinding memoir of losing her five-year-old daughter, Grace, to a rare form of strep in 2002.

Hood's spare, gorgeously serpentine narrative revisits the days and then months of almost mystical shock, comprehensive numbness, inexplicable pain, and unimaginable grief that "funny, blonde"

Grace's quick, cruel death delivered unto Hood; her husband, Lorne; her teenage stepdaughter, Ariane; and their then-eight-year-old son, Sam.

Writes Hood (*The Knitting Circle, Somewhere Off the Coast of Maine*) of the loss that has marked her life indelibly, "Sometimes I feel like I have swallowed a pile of stones. Grief makes me heavy. It makes me slow. Even on days when I laugh a lot, or dance, or finish a project,

or meet a deadline, or celebrate, or make love, it is there." Still, she shows uncommon resilience in the face of such tragedy. She learns to knit ("unlike life...knitting allowed me to start over again and again"). She works through issues of losing faith and keeping faith with her husband. She mothers her sensitive, theater-loving son. She returns to teaching and writing. And yet she touches "like a talisman" each of her daughter's four little pairs of shoes—"leopard rain boots, sparkly red Mary Janes, blue Skechers sneakers, worn metallic pink slip-ons"—all of which "stand like sentries at the top of the stairs."

Eventually, when their attempts to conceive again elude them, Hood and her husband adopt a nine-month-old Chinese girl. They give their daughter the middle name that Grace had, Annabelle. In an eerie yet divine alignment of grief and joy, Hood reveals in this unforgettable book that they were informed their new daughter was born on April 18—the day Grace died.—LISA SHEA







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## ELLE INTELLIGENCE BOOKS

# THE "ELLE'S LETTRES" READERS' PRIZE 2008

For her debut in ELLE's books pages, Jennifer Weiner (*In Her Shoes*, *Goodnight Nobody*) definitely brought game—a sequel to her best-selling first novel, *Good in Bed*, that virtually swept a field of formidable competition: the latest sharply observed take on the zeitgeist by longtime ELLE favorite Meg Wolitzer (*The Wife*, *The Position*) and Karen Joy Fowler's follow-up to her breakout 2004 hit, *The Jane Austen Book Club*. Beginner's luck? You've got to be kidding!

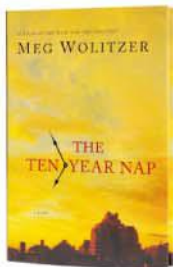
### 1. JENNIFER WEINER **CERTAIN GIRLS** (ATRIA)



A little more than 10 years on, Cannie Shapiro, once victimized by sexual scandal, is living a purposefully safe life, the protector of her beautiful daughter, Joy, her loving husband, Peter, and her own privacy. There is promise of new beginnings—a bat mitzvah, talk of having another baby via a surrogate. What follows? A daughter's journey through teen angst to realizations about family, acceptance, love, and the nature of truth. —*Marisa de Saracho Lewin, Los Angeles*

A mother who aired too much dirty laundry in her youth seeks to shelter her family from her past, while her daughter yearns to know the truth about her heritage. Middle-aged Cannie's story, intertwined with an account from her adolescent daughter, shows how fear, at any age, can hold us back and hinder our progress. It's entertaining enough, but Weiner adds too many details and neglects to create a plot that would truly draw us in. —*Becca Taylor, Richmond, VA*

### 2. MEG WOLITZER **THE TEN-YEAR NAP** (RIVERHEAD)



In this provocative saga, four career women who seemingly had it all, then gave it up for the struggles and joys of raising children in New York City, become tangled in a web of discontent, envy, longing, jealousy, love, and hope. Wolitzer's intimate look into these women's subsequent quests for validation is both liberating and poignant, as she deftly explores the relationships among family, friends, husbands, and lovers that shape her heroines' views of their pasts and the uncertainties of the future. —*Melissa Korn, Seattle*

This book begins as a startling story of the everyday—a new and refreshing spin on the internal and external struggles of feminism that divide us and cut to the core of our most private lives: motherhood or work? We start on a journey to the heart of what counts as work, what society considers valuable, and where it is that we, as women and wives and mothers, find value within ourselves. But somewhere amid too many points of view and not enough plot, I became bored. Wolitzer's themes—from terrorist attacks to adultery and suburban-versus-urban life—often feel rushed and overzealous. Despite her meticulous style and seemingly effortless ability to compose sentences that take us on an elegant roller coaster ride, Wolitzer's characters are often flat and unsatisfying. —*Heidi Rivers, Minneapolis*

### 3. KAREN JOY FOWLER **WIT'S END** (A MARIAN WOOD BOOK/PUTNAM)



Though an author's obsession with the theme of writing often makes a terrible topic for a novel, Fowler presents it not only as mysterious and full of intrigue—the writer's-life cliché—but also as something fun and real. She plays along the edge between imagination and reality, where we all wish we could dwell, like at that moment when a dream is coming to an end but we have yet to wake up. —*Heidi Rivers, Minneapolis*

Rima, lonely after the deaths of her mother, brother, and father, retreats to the home of her godmother, a famous writer, in Santa Cruz, California. But Rima's knowledge of A. B. Early stems more from reading her novels than from any intimacy; as she recovers from her grief, she learns that there is a thin veil between the fiction in Early's murder mysteries and the reality of her own father's past. While the tale is intriguing, aspects of it are a bit far-fetched and leave us feeling detached from the proceedings. —*Becca Taylor, Richmond, VA*

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# TRANSFORMER

Meet America's most unlikely superhero: the formerly somewhat unheroic **Robert Downey Jr.** He's about to go on a tear—from *Iron Man* to *Tropic Thunder* to *The Soloist*—that will blow America's mind. By Joseph Hooper

I'm in the kitchen of Robert Downey Jr.'s unsplashy rental home in West L.A., and the actor is showing me his pride and joy, a countertop covered with precisely arranged little plastic bags of drugs. It's been six years since Downey has done time in a rehab facility, a halfway house, or a prison cell, so we're dealing with more salubrious merchandise here.

"That's a brain formula," Downey says, gleefully pointing at the bags filled with ground-up herbs of exotic, and legal, provenance that he will be consuming by the mouthful over the coming week. "That's a Chinese one for work; that one's for a little parasite I inherited that I'm trying to eradicate, probably from air travel."

"A doctor actually found it?" I ask.

"We have our methods of detection," he notes with clinical satisfaction.

Even a clean and sober, new and improved Downey isn't going to pass for *normal*. But these days, he is, at a minimum, hyper-productive—which has more to do with the drugs and booze he's not ingesting than the whey-color capsules he is. ("Not being hungover helps a lot," he says.) The coming months will see him in juicy roles in major-league films like *The Soloist*, directed by *Atonement*'s Joe Wright, and *Tropic Thunder*, a trippy farce from Ben Stiller. His biggest splash and, on the face of it, the most unlikely, is this month's *Iron Man*, the latest Marvel Comics superhero movie to blow through Hollywood.

Both superheroes and iconic actors should have compelling "origin stories." *Iron Man*: Injured by an exploding missile of his own creation, millionaire inventor Tony Stark builds a fantastic metal exoskeleton powered by a device in his chest that keeps him alive. Downey: Raised by an actress mother and offbeat filmmaker father in Greenwich Village; when Robert Sr. hands the fateful joint to eight-year-old Robert Jr. (the age varies in the telling, but it's always under 10), he unwittingly set a course for his son, the smart-off-the-charts, super-head-case who tantalized with a brilliant performance one day and was led away in handcuffs the next. Downey's

heard the tale often enough ("My dad is the mellowest, straightest guy on the earth right now, so can people just leave him alone?" he says), but the fact remains that between the years 1996 and 2002, the actor was the third rail of American cinema. Lowlights include being confronted by the police passed out in bed in a Malibu house he randomly wandered into and sabotaging his Emmy-nominated run as Ally McBeal's love interest with a sad drugs-and-stripper-fueled Thanksgiving weekend trip to Palm Springs.

Unlike certain singers and actresses whose self-destructive shenanigans provide a debased tabloid fascination for, well, some of us, Downey seemed so gifted and, frankly, so much fun, that his repeated relapses were excruciating for everybody. But Downey is a man with a second act.

**He has been keeping hellacious hours** of late, filming *The Soloist* (Jamie Foxx is a schizophrenic homeless musician with aspirations to play L.A.'s Walt Disney Concert Hall; Downey is his journalist ally), but when I first meet Downey, his primary concern appears to be me. "I mean, maybe it's because I have some semblance of a moral psychology," he says, "but everybody is having a day. You flew out here from New York, and I know it's easy to get exhausted. How was your day, by the fuckin' way?"

Then there's the matter of the exact form our visit will take. Downey allows that I missed watching him in action with his kung fu master, or *sifu*, at the martial arts studio this afternoon, but, chuckling an old codger's hee-hee, he says, "I was thinking we could go through my closet." Or, with a nod to his spiritual enthusiasms, he offers, "If you have any discipline by which you sit down, let's do that. We can bring the whole thing inward, dude. I'll bring out the meditation pads. Wouldn't it be great just sitting there for 10 minutes with the tape recorder running?"

We settle on a reality show, *At Home With the Downeys*. Given his schedule these days, it's an efficient choice: Downey doing what he'd be doing if I weren't there, ordering takeout and keeping tabs on his 14-year-old son,

Indio, who splits time between his father and mother, singer and former model Deborah Falconer. (The couple divorced four years ago.) Dinner arrives from a nearby Italian restaurant, an impressive number of aluminum takeout pans stacking up in the middle of the dining room table. "We're eatin'," Downey says expansively, "the kid's here; it doesn't get any better than this."

Indio doesn't look especially thrilled. He's hit gangly, deep-voiced adolescence, and tonight the default mode is diffident self-possession, at least around strangers. Downey continues in his *Father Knows Best* vein, semi-ironic in delivery but yuppie-dad serious about the particulars: "By the way, I'm pleased with your report card, but we'll be going over several aspects of it at some point."

When I ask about his parenting style, he describes it as either "insanely permissive" or "drill sergeant" and then tosses the question to Indio. "You can speak openly and forever be quoted in ELLE magazine."

"On some things, really open," Indio replies. "On other things, completely ridiculous, I guess."

Downey [to me]: "I just want you to know I was up at 6:45 this morning making him steel-cut oatmeal and a variety of fruits, getting his herbs together, asking him to wear his healing medallions, doing his soccer laundry. [Deadpan, to Indio]: What's it like taking that for granted?...No, I've never had it so good. He's really ideal. Go grab my pipe and slippers, would you?"

**In his early work, Downey came** across as an American version of a cockney busker, a hyperkinetic showboy who, whether or not the movie was any good, was compulsively interesting to watch. Think of his coked-out train wreck in 1987's *Less Than Zero* or his gun-mad gonzo TV journalist in *Natural Born Killers* (1994). More recently, he's given us performances in which the intensity is, if anything, more palpable for being so tightly focused. Three films have encased him in what were essentially head-to-toe bodysuits—grotesque psoriasis in 2003's *The Singing Detective*, gorilla-like hirsuteness in 2006's *Fur*, and superarmor







in *Iron Man*—and then challenged him to act his way out. (“In *Fur*, I basically felt I was a pair of floating eyes,” he says.) In the real-life whodunit *Zodiac* (2007), he is devastating as a journalist sinking into the quicksand of alcoholism, eyes open, not a trace of self-pity. “He’s done all his research,” says his good pal and three-time director Michael Hoffman, ruefully. For Downey, there is at least some artistic return on the years of living foolishly: “I think there’s a confidence, a quietness that comes from having labored long enough and having withstood enough humiliating things and less than ideal outcomes.”

But really, until that multimillion-dollar promo spot popped up during the Super Bowl, who would have guessed that the actor’s moment of mainstream triumph would be flying supersonic circles around fighter jets as Iron Man? “I come from a really critical and self-critical film-snoopy family,” he says, “where the opening statement of anything is always ‘Horseshit!’” But the chance to do good work and be seen by millions of people and make a lot of money.... “Dude, it’s a big business,” he whispers, genuinely awed to be on the verge of multiplex success. “And I love big business.”

**After dinner, we sink into the** uncomfortable white leather couch that dominates his living room. “I got it for \$200 from [the set of] *The Singing Detective*,” he says. That dark genre-bender marked the beginning of his comeback; one of the film’s producers, Mel Gibson, tossed it to him as a lifeline when Hollywood had mostly written him off as trouble and an insurance headache to boot. “As a matter of fact, I’ve been told that when my ship comes in, I should probably get a proper couch.” Granted, Downey left prison and rehab with the clothes on his back, but with his strong work in a string of mostly small films, and those major motion pictures in the pipeline, hasn’t that ship already docked? “It’s clo-sin’ in,” he crows, “and the mooring lines are being assembled.”

Taking the measure of Downey in jeans and a T-shirt on the bad couch, it’s evident that the rough years have weathered him and the near-religious devotion to the martial arts has sculpted a supple, muscular physique. The Brat Pack pretty boy is history, not that he was conventionally handsome even back then. Those long lashes and rubbery features gave him the unsettling look of a teenage satyr, not unlike the young Chaplin whose spirit he seemed to channel in his 1992 Oscar-nominated turn. It was in the *Ally McBeal* era that he may have hit the apogee of masculine appeal, his lean face thoughtfully framed

by lawyerly glasses. Downey at the piano, soulfully covering the Joni Mitchell tune “River”—what chance did Ally have? This evening, with his close-cropped hair and the scroungy salt-and-pepper beard that obscures his fine jawline (all courtesy of *The Soloist*), he could pass for a grizzled ex-special forces vet. But when he finds himself talking about the drug years, his redemption song, equal parts self-mockery and utter sincerity, he sounds almost angelic. Skeptics might add that Downey has hit similar notes before, but this time, he says, he’s got four years of sobriety to back it up, and I’ve heard no back-of-the-choir whispers to suggest otherwise.

“I’m out of that past sector of my life,” he says, “like, *ascended* out of it. I feel the gravity of it, but I’m past that point where I’m gonna get sucked in, as long as I keep going where I’m goin’, and that’s really all I’ve probably ever wanted since I was a teenager. I saw a window and I jumped through it, and the window closed and I haven’t tried to force it open to get back into the burning building I was in.”

“Um, Robert, can we get a little more specific here?”

“Let me take a pee, and I’ll tell you.”

He sets the scene upon his return. It is July 4, 2004, Independence Day, and he’s driving up the Pacific Coast Highway, finally off probation and feeling way too relaxed on his way to a friend’s wedding. “I thought this was perfect,” he says. “All I have to do is not get egg-shaped and fall off the wall. I’m gonna chip [indulge slightly], and so I geared up and I got all my little doozies and then I just thought, Didn’t I just do this? I saw exactly how it was going to pan out. And in that moment, I accessed all these broken relationships and stuff and my mom.... Whatever it was, the butterfly net came down and I was like, I would like you to tell me exactly what to do because I’m not going to do what I thought I was going to do today.” And Krishna, the Buddha, Jesus, whoever was running the show in Downey’s pantheistic universe that day, provided him, he says, with a moment of grace or enlightenment, depending on your East/West orientation.

Why he kicked this time and not before, Downey says, is mysterious and individual, and the last thing he wants to be is the “poster boy” for anybody else’s recovery movement. Because then, he says, “I’m Tony Robbins, and we’re fucked.” Suffice to say, five or six years ago, good things were happening in his life and he was ready for them. “I met the right gal,” he says, referring to Susan Levin, a producer on 2003’s *Gothika*, one of his lesser films. Three years later, she became his wife, “Mrs. Downey”

or “the Missus” as he calls her. “She’s very direct and straightforward,” Hoffman tells me. “I think that relationship has been very settling and very profound.”

Banished is the lost soul who seemed incapable of pulling himself together after his first marriage began to fall apart. “One level of it is me being comfortable in my skin,” he says, “and another level is there’s a Hasbro [action figure] toy in the other room with my face on it.” He laughs. “So you wanna go gross or subtle, it’s working.”

For those not intimately familiar with the Marvel oeuvre, Tony Stark is not your average superhero but rather a pleasure-seeking “playboy”—he even has a drinking problem!—who discovers depth of character and a new evil-fighting vocation in the iron suit that barely keeps his damaged body alive. “You have to at least respect the fact that he’s had some sort of awakening,” Downey says. “A lot of the story is about him trying to get his act together enough to not get killed while he figures out what he’s going to become.”

Director Jon Favreau knew Downey was the one. “Robert is a very meticulous, detail-oriented person, with a certain myopic quality,” he says. And in the crucial scenes of Stark in the lab perfecting his suit, “he’s hunkered down and completely fixated on something technical. Stark can seem like a genius or ridiculous depending on which side you look at it. Robert can play a ridiculous genius.” And, of course, someone who’s familiar with the knife’s edge. “His involvement with substance abuse and all that stuff—he doesn’t have to work it too hard, like my brother and I playing brothers in *The Fabulous Baker Boys*,” says Jeff Bridges, who plays Stark’s business partner, Obadiah Stane. “But my God, he’s in great shape now.”

**Before he retires to check on** India’s bedtime prep and the Downey show goes off the air, I zero in on some pertinent business. “Are you aware that over the course of your career, you’ve created a persona that is incredibly appealing to a large number of smart, attractive women?” I ask. (Michelle Monaghan, his leading lady in 2005’s screwball noir *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang*, says, “There’s sort of no filter with Robert, and that’s a wonderful thing to be around.”)

“It’s funny; by the time you could actually take advantage of that, it’s no longer an issue,” Downey says. “I love women, and my life has largely been shaped by them... watching my mom being an actress and seeing her make dinner for us and then putting on a period costume or a turban and going to play one of those 17 parts in my dad’s films. I mean, this is the Downey

(CONTINUED ON page 322)





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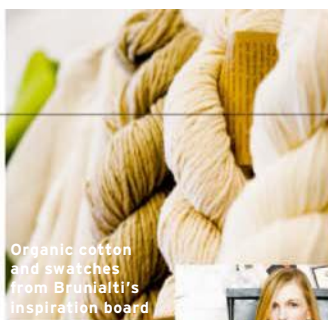
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## ELLE FASHION REPORTER ECO AID



Brunialti at her desk at Banana Republic headquarters



Organic cotton and swatches from Brunialti's inspiration board



Banana Republic's new green tag



(Below and right) Brunialti at Amansala eco resort in Tulum, Mexico



(Left, above, and below) Looks from the eco capsule collection



(Left, above, and below) Looks from the eco capsule collection

# CRITICAL MASS

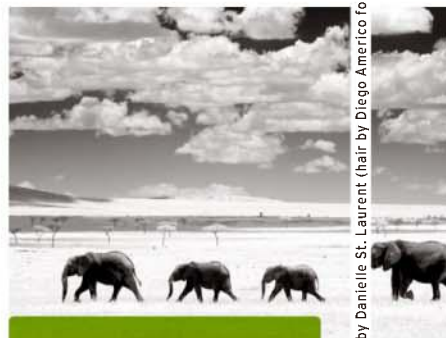
Banana Republic smartens up with an **eco collection** that leads to consistently greener clothes and stores

"I grew up in Rome, the land of the tiny refrigerator and the even smaller closet," says Alessandra Brunialti, vice president of women's design at Banana Republic. "We only bought what we needed and always ate locally sourced fresh food. That way of life has stayed with me." Although Brunialti lives a low-impact lifestyle both in New York City and at her home in the Hamptons and vacationed exclusively at environmentally friendly resorts like Amansala in Tulum long before they were fashionable, the biggest gift she'll give the planet to date is the work she's done on

Banana Republic's new green initiative. Inspired by adventurer and outdoor photographer Andy Biggs' serene snaps of elephants on the African savannah and Scandinavian architect Pascal Van der Kelen's streamlined structures, Banana Republic's first-ever eco capsule collection hits stores for the spring/summer season. "Our motto is 'One step at a time,'" says Brunialti. "We are carefully choosing the ways we can make a difference. We don't want to be one of those companies that claim they're 'green' without doing the work. It's going to be a gradual progression."

First up, besides a commitment to use recycled packaging and energy-conserving lightbulbs in stores, is a 50-piece collection that incorporates bamboo, organic Turkish cotton and linen, and soy-silk blends into clean-cut basics. Standouts include a supple cream trench coat, high-waist trousers, and paper-thin embroidered caftans in nudes, grass greens, and a signature

bamboo-stalk print. The collection doesn't look much different from the rest of Banana Republic's modern staples, which is exactly the point. "We want our normal customers to be the ones buying our green items, so they look to the design first and then realize it's green after the fact," Brunialti says. Eco pieces will be marked with a special tag that bears the stamp of an elephant and after this season will become a part of each standard collection, starting with Banana Republic's 5 percent organic-cotton tank tops and 100 percent organic-cotton denim pants and jackets. The company also donated one percent of its total in-store profits (estimated at \$100,000) during Earth Week (April 22 to 27) to the Trust for Public Lands (Tpl.org), a conservation group that raises funds for public parks, community gardens, and historic sites—with the hope that other clothing masters of the universe will eventually follow.—A.B.



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## White Lucent



# POLAR EXPRESS

Inspired by a *National Geographic* show on arctic polar bears, **Phillip Lim** launches a green line to fight global warming



Lim in his New York studio

Looks from his spring Go Green Go line



very activist has a defining moment when he can no longer ignore the world's larger problems. For Al Gore, it was losing the 2000 election

to George Bush, prompting him to refocus his career on the environment. For Phillip Lim, it was polar bears. Last year, while at home in his airy New York apartment, the designer caught a *National Geographic* special on the arctic prowlers and vowed to himself then to start his own organic line in order to reduce his company's footprint. "At one time they were these elusive characters, living in this mythic world, as kings of the castle," Lim says. "Now they're hunting in junkyards, like scavengers." The next day, while walking to work carrying his lunch in a recycled brown paper shopping bag—his carryall of choice—and thinking about how he'd contributed to global warming and the depletion of resources in the North Pole, Lim began laying the groundwork for Go Green Go, a 10-piece collection of bib-front tanks, cropped pants, and tunic dresses, all made with natural cottons (lined in organic silk) and bearing his signature relaxed silhouette. "I'd been thinking about doing this collection for a while, and suddenly it just felt right," he says. In addition to forgoing dye on the sustainable materials, he had each item washed with tennis balls "to beat up fabrics" for a worn-in look. "When I think of organic, I think of natural beiges and

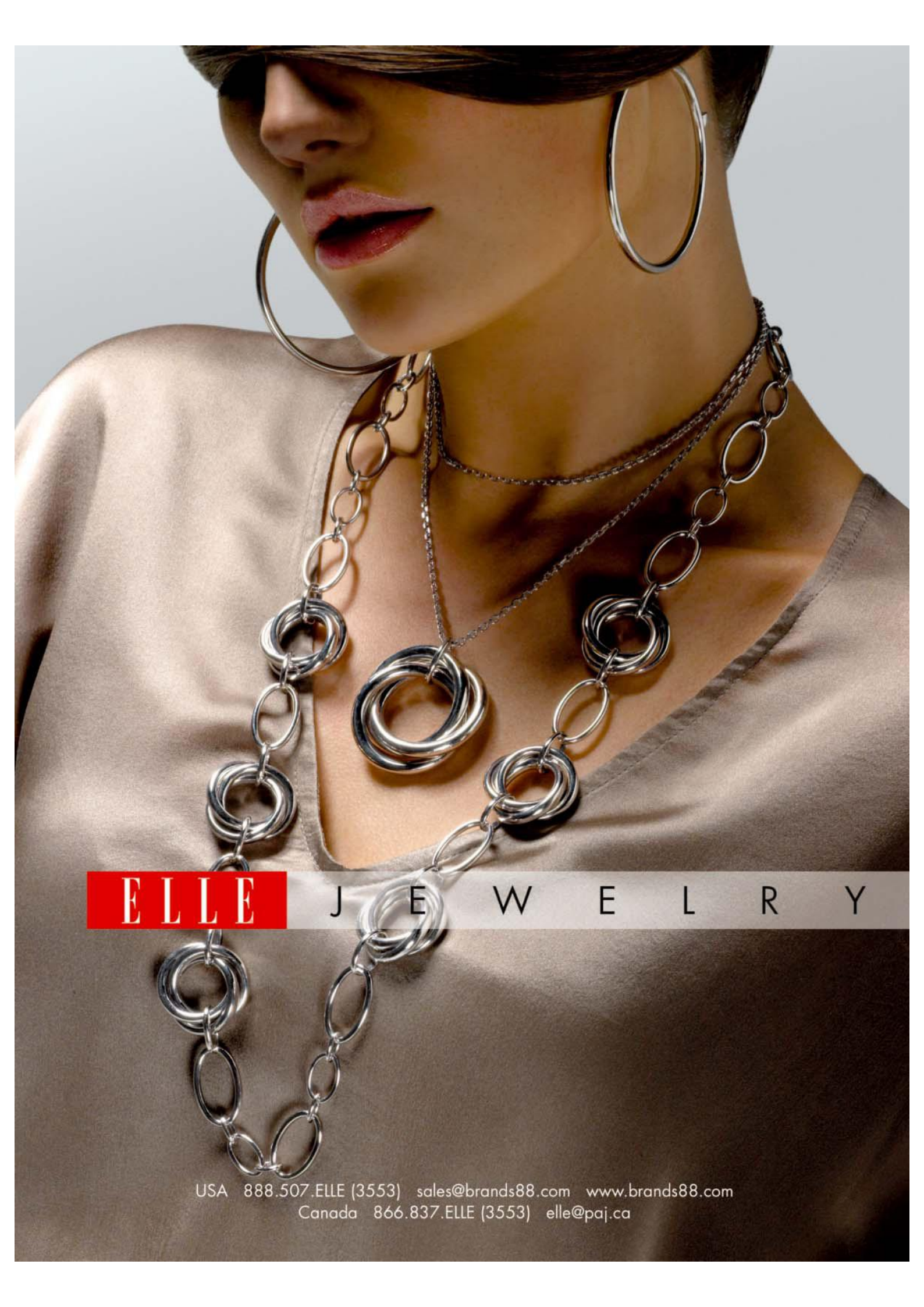
something pure and innocent," Lim says, noting how he also added sophisticated details such as pleating and covered buttons, which were finished by hand to cut down on machine use. "I don't want women to be able to tell the line is green, so when they notice later, they'll realize how easy it is to incorporate environmentally friendly fashion into their style." As for Lim, he plans next to unroll Go Green Go for his men's and children's lines. Meanwhile, he's instated a company recycling plan for plastic garment bags—"It's a shame going through 1,000 plastic bags; actually, it's kind of sickening"—and has designed a \$20 canvas grocery tote (inspired by his personal brown bagging) that comes with a playful note reading, "Smile, you have just reduced your carbon footprint." (100 percent of the proceeds go to Al Gore's Climate Project.) "I know it's not going to change overnight," Lim says of the environment, "but at least I can try to reduce what I've done."

—WHITNEY VARGAS



**HELP OUT!** To aid in the fight against global warming and melting polar ice caps (disintegrating at a rate three times faster than they were five years ago), plant a tree. A single tree will absorb one ton of carbon dioxide over its lifetime. [theclimateproject.org](http://theclimateproject.org)





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Left: Kamm with a monkey and at the local market. Right: A view of the Caribbean Sea

## LAND MARK

L.A. designer **Jesse Kamm** brings her romantic handcrafted artistry to an eco project in Panama



Kamm in Panama with her new boat

Paradise for some is a five-star resort with Tiki Tinis delivered poolside. Not so for L.A. designer Jesse Kamm. Three and a half years ago while surfing in Panama with her husband, the two looked to the shore and spotted cattle grazing on the remote island of Carenero, part of the Bocas del Toro archipelago. Within six months, the couple plus their friends and family had purchased 33 acres of lush waterside property and started planning what will soon be Punta Carenero, a green residential community, where owners are more likely to find kingfishers and wild heliconia plants than cashmere throws and



high heels. "Everybody's going to live off the grid," Kamm says, explaining how each home will be solar-powered and have rainwater cisterns. "We all leave tracks, but I want to impact the world as little as possible." Back in California, the 32-year-old former model designs effortlessly chic dresses from natural cottons and washed silks, which she then hand-dyes with her own romantic prints, such as spring's bows and buttons. Even there, she drives a Mercedes fueled by waste vegetable oil, which she uses to drop off all local store deliveries. This summer, Kamm plans to get back to Panama to work on her own tropical pole house. "There's one market where you go to get your can of corn, toothpaste, rubber boots," she says. "I don't know how my next collection is going to happen, but I'm following my instincts, and right now they're saying I need to go down there and build myself a house."

—WHITNEY VARGAS



Clockwise from above left: Liesl Gaffney-Dawson and Alison Lohman in looks from Kamm's spring collection; Gaffney-Dawson



From above: Kamm's inspiration for the pole house; landscaping at Punta Carenero



## FOOD NETWORK

Lauren Bush is once again tackling world hunger with her latest Feed bag



Clockwise from top left: Bush's new Feed 100 bag; children in Chad, photographed by Bush; the zipped-up Feed 100 tote; Bush with children in Guatemala in 2003

Lauren Bush is a realist when it comes to living green. She purposely doesn't own a car and travels around New York by bike whenever possible; the 23-year-old also admits she's "starting to wear eco fashion," though it's not always easy. "I'm trying," she says. "I'm not perfect, but it's something." So when Bush takes on a charitable

project, there's a tendency to believe she actually plans to make a difference. Last year, the honorary spokeswoman for the UN's World Food Programme (and presidential niece) designed a burlap tote with FEED THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD stamped across it. Proceeds from each of the 30,000 bags sold went to feeding one child in school for one year. (Fifty-nine million schoolchildren worldwide are currently not receiving assistance.) This month, she's launching Feed 100 in conjunction with Whole Foods.

Her goal is to sell more than 500,000 of her new organic cotton and jute burlap bags in order to feed all the children enrolled in Rwanda's school system for a full year, promoting education. (Kids are more likely to attend classes if guaranteed a meal.) Bush, who has carried her Feed bag from the Nicaraguan rain forest to the red carpet, is kicking things off with a two-week trip to the east African country. "You can't help but see that level of poverty and have respect for people living in those circumstances," she says.—W.V.



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# CALIFORNIA DREAMING

Designer **Rebecca Minkoff** and **Bijou Phillips** create an eco bag inspired by the Mamas & the Papas and meant for dancing at mud-filled music festivals

"Bijou immediately knew the two most important features our bag should have: a spot for your backstage pass and a pouch big enough for a change of clothes," says accessories designer **Rebecca Minkoff** of her collaboration with actress/model **Bijou Phillips** (who fittingly played a groupie in *Cameron Crowe's film Almost*

*Famous*) to create the perfect rock concert carryall. The two met through Phillips' boyfriend, actor **Danny Masterson** (Steven Hyde on *That '70s Show*), who grew up with Minkoff in Santa Monica. Both girls have a connection to music: Minkoff is constantly front row for her boyfriend **Gavin Bellour's** (the singer-songwriter formerly of *Million Billion*) gigs, and Phillips' father is the late **John Phillips**, of the *Mamas & the Papas*. "We named the bag *Monterey*, after the 1967 pop festival that my dad helped organize. It's for a dirty, rough day at a concert," Phillips says. The purple tote is colored with nontoxic metal-free dye and made from recycled scraps of eco-friendly leather—meaning leftover skins that are bought from meat factories. "If you're going to use leather, you should only

use skins that are available from meat purveyors; otherwise they just go to waste," Minkoff says. Continuing on her global kick, she has also created an alternative grocery bag, along with an all-canvas version available exclusively on *Shopbop.com* starting this month. Keep a lookout for more of Phillips and Minkoff's rock-star-inspired bags later this year. It's all happening!—ALEXA BRAZILIAN

(Clockwise from above) Minkoff and Phillips; a poster from the Monterey Pop Festival; Jimi Hendrix at the festival in 1967; the duo's *Monterey* bag

(Below) Minkoff's grocery tote; grab the vegan-friendly version at *Shopbop.com* this month.



## IN THE BAG

**Anya Hindmarch** looks back at the tote that put green fashion statements on the map



Eager shoppers waiting on line at *Whole Foods* in New York



From left: The book by the *We Are What We Do* organization that inspired the bag; clever knockoffs of the *Hindmarch* original

Once upon a time (last year), Brit designer **Anya Hindmarch** caused a bit of a stir with her canvas *I AM NOT A PLASTIC BAG* tote. When it debuted across London in *Sainsbury's* grocery stores, 80,000 people stood in line—in the rain. Soon after, when Hindmarch took the bag to a mall in Hong Kong, a

stampede ensued and police had to close down the shopping center. In Taiwan, 30 people were hospitalized with minor injuries. "I've been gobsmacked by this experience," says the designer, whose favorite story is the one about a woman who was mugged while pushing a stroller in London. The thief made off with her \$15 *Hindmarch* tote and left behind an expensive *It Bag*. The reusable carryalls have been sold around the world—quite an achievement, considering the U.S.



From left: Hindmarch with the first person to buy the green bag at the *Bowery Whole Foods*; Lily Allen poses with hers

alone goes through 100 billion plastic shopping bags a year. At the moment, Hindmarch doesn't have any plans to build on her sustainability success, but that's just fine, considering she'll forever be the reigning queen of the eco fashion conquest.—WHITNEY VARGAS







Michael Stars



# ONE LOVE

Seven NYC women are doing their part to spark positive change in Africa



(Left) A piece from the Water Collection; (above) Péan at a well in Malawi

**The Problem:** Water contamination in Kenya and beyond

**The Advocate:** Monique Péan

**The Idea:** The Charity: Water signature collection

**The Details:** "The jewelry I have created unites design and sustainability while raising awareness of issues facing indigenous groups. I want to put native art and issues facing disadvantaged people on the map in the world of fashion," Péan says. For her last collection, she was inspired by Alaskan native art in the Bering Strait (she donated 10 percent of her profits to the Alaskan Native Arts Foundation), and this time it's Malawi. Péan visited impoverished villages in Malawi with clean-water shortages and will be donating 50 percent of the proceeds of her latest designs to Charity: Water ([Charitywater.org](http://Charitywater.org)), which builds wells (one



(Above) Péan with local craftsmen in Malawi; (below) a piece from the Bering Strait collection



piece brings H<sub>2</sub>O to 10 people for 20 years) all around Africa. She also studied the style of local Malawi artists and is using only recycled and reclaimed gold for her pieces, since mining releases mercury into the water system.



**HELP OUT!** During Fashion Week in New York, Gucci raised \$5.5 million for orphans and children affected by HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa. Cochaired by Madonna and Gucci Creative Director Frida Gianni, 100 percent of the funds raised from the event will be donated to the U.S. Fund for UNICEF and Raising Malawi. [unicef.org](http://unicef.org); [raisingmalawi.org](http://raisingmalawi.org)

For more on Madonna's charity work, flip to page 280 to ELLE's cover story.

**The Problem:** The fragility of Africa's trade relations with the U.S. and other superpowers

**The Advocate:** Nicole MacKinlay Hahn

**The Idea:** *Reap What You Sew*

**The Details:** After working with her brother Scott, co-founder of Rogan Jeans, on their eco line, Loomstate, and branding Bono and his wife Ali's company Edun, multimedia artist Hahn releases her own interactive video-art installation promoting conscious consumerism, titled *Reap What You Sew*. The project—a hand-blown glass orb with a video screen inside—which is sponsored by Earth Pledge (donate funds to Hahn's project at [Earthpledge.org](http://Earthpledge.org)), begins its travels around the world on the ninth floor of Barneys NYC on March 27. The "crystal ball" allows shoppers to scan special tags from Barneys merchandise made in Africa, which prompts short movie clips (filmed by Hahn) of boys dancing in Madagascar or smiling horsemen in Lesotho, to a remixed track of Toto's song "Africa." "I personally feel the apparel sector has the most potential to grow in Africa, but if the trade laws turn against the continent (which they have in the past), it



(Above) The artist's video installation; (below) Hahn in Swaziland, photographed by Christy Turlington

will have devastating effects," she says. "I want to hit the consumer emotionally in the store with my art. If people see how beautiful and spirited the African people are, maybe they'll think about how we affect their economy."

(Below and right) Footage from Hahn's installation *Reap What You Sew*



Still lifes: courtesy of designers; bottom left: Joe Schildhorn/patrickmcmullan.com; remaining images: courtesy of Monique Péan



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## SUMMER PERSPECTIVES



### Suffering From Embarrassing Dark Intimate Areas?

You are not alone! We all want to look our best, especially in our most intimate areas. Now you can with South Beach Skin Solutions. This Lightening Gel is specifically formulated for use on your most sensitive areas. Dark underarms too! See all of the products at [www.southbeachskinsolutions.com](http://www.southbeachskinsolutions.com).

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Disappointed by mouthwash, breath sprays and mints that don't work? Try Breath Appeal and never be embarrassed by bad breath again! Featured on *Today* and *20/20*, this daily 30-second home treatment eliminates halitosis permanently. For a free information packet, call toll-free 1-800-300-3910 ext. 40, or visit [www.breath40.com](http://www.breath40.com).



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Amanda and Nicola Mackey outside the NAEA factory in Ethiopia

**The Problem:** The depressed textile industry and unemployment level of women in Ethiopia

**The Advocates:** Amanda Mackey and Nicola Mackey Johnson

**The Idea:** NAEA Handbags

**The Details:** Recently troubled by the lack of American business conducted in Africa, casting director Amanda Mackey and her daughter, Nicola, decided to start a handbag line produced on the continent and sold in the U.S. Amanda met Ethiopian model Liya Kebede while casting Robert De Niro's film *The Good Shepherd*, and Kebede suggested creating the line in Ethiopia. Soon after, they found an existing all-women factory in Addis Ababa (founded by three local female entrepreneurs in 2004) of more than 100 workers who would hand-weave their fair-trade traditional Ethiopian bags. NAEA launched this winter exclusively in Barneys ([Barneys.com](http://Barneys.com)) and is the first line of hand-woven bags ever to be produced in Ethiopia.

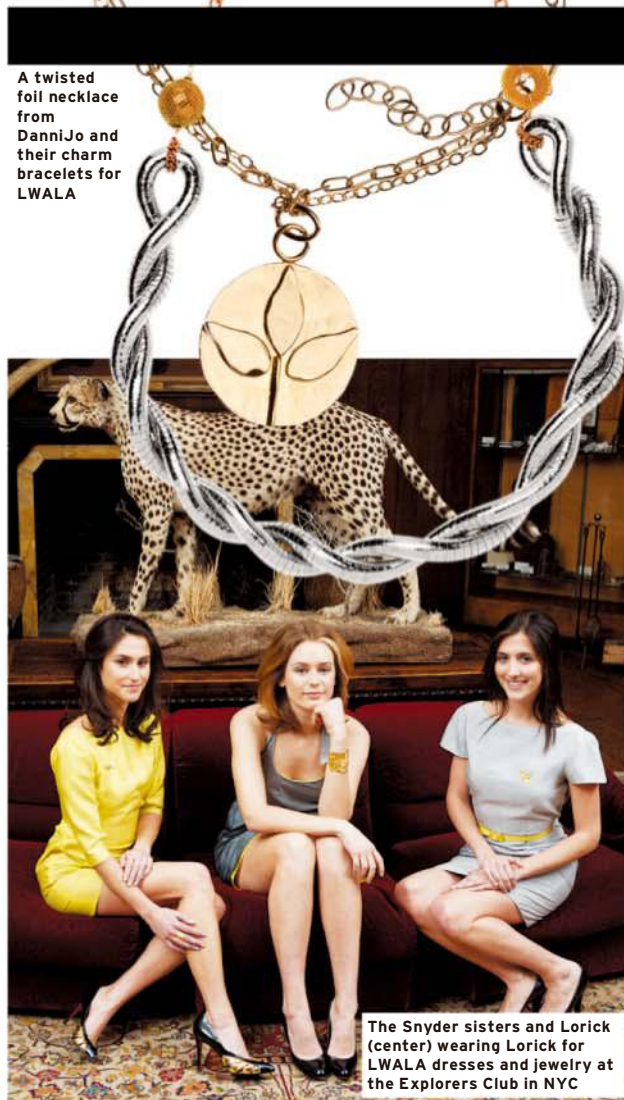


Model Liya Kebede



Adis Ababa, Ethiopia

NAEA's traditional Ethiopian woven bags



A twisted foil necklace from DanniJo and their charm bracelets for LWALA

The Snyder sisters and Lorick (center) wearing Lorick for LWALA dresses and jewelry at the Explorers Club in NYC

**The Problem:** The AIDS infection rate in Lwala, Kenya

**The Advocates:** Danielle and Jodie Snyder and Abigail Lorick

**The Idea:** Capsule collections that benefit Lwala

**The Details:** After traveling with friends to Lwala, a village in Kenya, to make a documentary on AIDS, Danielle co-founded LWALA (Living with a Life-Long Ambition, [Lwala.org](http://Lwala.org)), which helps facilitate development in African communities.

After college, the Snyder sisters started DanniJo Jewels, which for spring offers gold accessories with LWALA's logo. Clothing designer Abigail Lorick has also made a summer collection with flecks of yellow in each piece (evocative of traditional crafts in Kenya), which will also benefit the organization.



The Explorers Club, NYC

**HELP OUT!** Boost North African tourism and sail the southern Mediterranean through Tunisia and Algeria (from April 14–26) on the Explorers Club of NYC's boat *Wind Spirit*, guided by member James Delgado, an underwater and maritime archaeologist. [explorersclub.org](http://explorersclub.org)

LWALA designers portrait: Glynnis McDavis (hair and makeup by Greg B. for artistsbythymothypriano.com); still lifes: Vicente Pouso; Kebede: Gary Gershnoff/WireImage.com; Church: Gavin Heller/Getty Images; remaining images: courtesy of designer



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Stephanie Seymour

## BEYOND BEAUTY





Armani with a Mercedes CLK-Class Cabriolet he designed



Armani Privé, spring '08



David Beckham in an Armani ad



Beyoncé's Dangerously in Love



African hats at a bazaar

# KING GIORGIO

Milan's *testa della moda* Giorgio Armani extols the virtues of staying fit, lounging at sunset, and, of course, glamorous high fashion



*Other than yourself, who is your favorite designer?*

Coco Chanel. I also admire the work of Karl Lagerfeld and Jean Paul Gaultier because both are clearly passionate about their work.

*If you could come back as a dress, which one would it be?*

One of my Privé couture dresses—each one is a true labor of love.

*If you could come back as a model, who would you be?*

It would not be a model, but an actor, like Cary Grant.

*What is your favorite color?*

Natural, neutral colors, and black and navy blue.

*What is your favorite junk food?*

I never eat junk food—unless pasta qualifies as a junk food. Actually, that's not true: I have a weakness for dark chocolate.

*What are you most vain about?*

Keeping my body in shape.

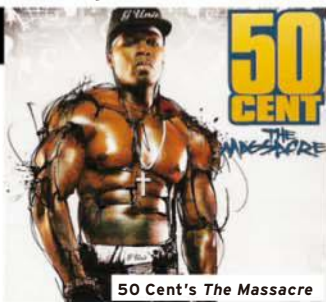
*What are you most shy about?*

Speaking to an audience.

*If you could have somebody else's body, whose would it be?*

Andriy Shevchenko's or David Beckham's. Footballers today have an almost classical athletic build.

Marlene Dietrich, 1935



*Who are your fantasy dinner-party guests?*

Picasso, Dante, Visconti, Verdi, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Marlene Dietrich, Diaghilev, John F. Kennedy—how many settings do I have?

*Where is your favorite place to have a drink?*

The deck of my new boat, or poolside at my holiday home on the Mediterranean island of Pantelleria. Sunset is my favorite time to have a drink. I often go to Nobu on Thursday evenings for a drink just before my week ends.

*What's your underwear of choice?*

Emporio Armani, as worn by Mr. Beckham.

*Do you have any pets?*

Two cats, Charlie and Angel.

*What do you eat for breakfast?*

At home in Milan I have a very regimented routine in the mornings. I work out for at least an hour, three times a week. As well as my regular café latte and croissants, I eat a meal of chicken, pears, cheese, and white rice. This helps me

Antigua shopping district



maintain my physical condition.

*At seven, what did you want to be?*

A movie star.

*Are you eco in any way?*

I try to use natural materials, such as hemp, in my designs—for clothing and interiors.

*Favorite place to shop?*

Street markets in Africa.

*Whose wallet would you like to steal?*

Bill Gates'!

*Whose diary would you most like to read?*

My mother's.

*What's your least favorite food?*

I like my food simple and fresh. I am not a great lover of meat—I'd quite happily be a vegetarian, but I believe in having a balanced diet, and that requires protein.

*If you were an inventor, what would you invent?*

A cure for AIDS and cancer.

*Who is your favorite furniture designer?*

I am revisiting the work of Eileen Gray, who had such an influence on modernism.

*What's your favorite car?*

An Armani-designed Mercedes CLK-Class Cabriolet, naturally. I also quite like the new Fiat 500.

*When and where are you happiest?*

On my boat at sea in the summertime.

*Who is your best friend?*



Coco Chanel with models, circa 1960

I am lucky to have many good friends, but none I would classify as my best friend.

*Where is your favorite vacation spot?*

My houses on Pantelleria or Antigua.

*What's your most treasured possession?*

My memories.

*What's your favorite song?*

I have very eclectic taste in music—from classical to hip-hop, and it changes depending on my mood. Currently I am listening to Beyoncé, 50 Cent, and African music.

*If you weren't a designer, what would you be?*

I would have loved to be a film director.

*What's your biggest fashion regret?*

That I didn't ever get the chance to dress Grace Kelly—she was so elegant.

*Favorite trend of all time?*

The unstructured jacket for women and men.

*Worst trend of all time?*

Grunge.

*Always:*

Follow your personal vision.

*Never:*

Be deterred by negative comments.



Cary Grant, 1935

Top row, from left: courtesy of Mercedes-Benz USA; Marcio Madeira (two runway); Beckham: courtesy of the Everett Collection; © Mediainages/Corbis; © Getty Images; Adam Jones/Getty Images. Bottom row, from left: courtesy of the Everett Collection; © Mediainages/Corbis; © Getty Images; Adam Jones/Getty Images



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97% of women showed improvement in firmness or elasticity  
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*In a clinical study, improvements were seen  
in firmness and elasticity in just 4 weeks.*

New POSITIVELY AGELESS™ Lifting & Firming helps recapture skin's youthful firmness while you sleep. This exclusive night cream, with natural shiitake and wheat protein, fights lines and wrinkles while it lifts, firms and strengthens elasticity. Now you can start every day with firmer, younger-looking skin.



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A close-up photograph of a person's lips. The lips are coated in a vibrant, glossy purple lipstick. The top lip is slightly parted, revealing a row of white teeth. The bottom lip is also coated in the same purple lipstick. In the foreground, the rim and side of a translucent purple glass are visible, partially obscuring the lower part of the lips. The background is a soft, out-of-focus skin tone.

ELLE BEAUTY

A self-described tree hugger, Wende Zomnir, cofounder of Urban Decay, had a tough time tracking down animal-friendly lipsticks. To help her like-minded fans, she dedicated part of the Urban Decay website to the line's vegan products (go to [urbandecay.com/vegan.cfm](http://urbandecay.com/vegan.cfm)). To get this look, outline and fill entire lip with Urban Decay Lip Envy stain in Greedy, then add two coats of the ultraglossy Urban Decay XXX Shine Gloss in Love Junkie.





# A little sun exposure every day can really add up.

**AVEENO® introduces dermatologist recommended UVA/UVB protection in a daily moisturizer.**



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to keep moisture in and UV rays out.*

Would you spend a week at the beach without sunscreen?

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**INSIDE** KATE HUDSON SPILLS HER HAIR SECRETS, THE BEST PARABEN-FREE LOTIONS, L.A.'S WAY TO DROP POUNDS, AND MORE... →

# ELLE BEAUTY

## VIOLET TENDENCIES

Readily available, sustainable, and virtually free, could regular old tap water be the ultimate eco-cosmetic? Paris-based makeup artist Claudia Perschmann used the natural resource to turn Dior Amber Plum eye shadow into a vivid liquid liner, creating the supersize cat-eye at this ELLE shoot. Intensify your favorite loose mineral eye powder by wetting your brush with H<sub>2</sub>O before dipping it into the shadow. Our purple favorites: VonNatur Eye Colours in Pyrope and Tiger, and BareMinerals Eyecolor in Bloom and Liner Shadow in Sugar Plum.

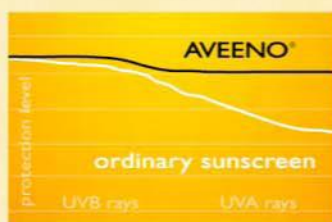




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new!





## POWER POUT-AGE

Beauty marketers may overuse the word *supercharged*, but MD Skincare Instant Beautification Lip Area Firming Patch (below), formulated to minimize vertical lines above the mouth, is literally power-packed. A paper-thin three-volt battery inside each sticker emits a positive charge (ELLE testers couldn't feel it) that forces any applied hyaluronic acid product deeper into skin than it would travel in its regular topical form. The treatment takes 20 minutes, and company data shows wrinkle reduction lasts more than six hours.

## PEN PAL

Before founding By Terry, Terry de Gunzburg was the mastermind behind YSL's legendary Touche Éclat. "Creating my own version was a daily obsession," says the Parisian former makeup artist who finally launched VIP Light-Expert (right), a luminous moisturizing foundation that comes in a chic click-to-use brush.

## REFRESHER COURSE

"At photo shoots, makeup artists were always prepping skin with Jurlique Rosewater Balancing Mist," says Beverly Hills salon owner Chris McMillan. "I used to think, What's that incredible smell?" He started spritzing the crisply scented face toner onto clients' strands to boost curls and soften ends, and it inspired the fragrance of his namesake finishing and styling spray, out this month. Between washes, try sprinkling Lulu Organics talc-free Hair Powder in Tuberose (above) onto roots to extend the flower power.

## LIGHT FRIGHT

Dermatological doomsayers have been claiming it for years, but now there's proof: Indoor lighting, such as a halogen desk lamp or overhead fluorescents, can induce pigmentary changes in skin. According to a study recently published in the *Journal of Drugs in Dermatology*, light emitted from a 500-watt bulb a foot away from a person can exacerbate melasma (less powerful bulbs will produce the same outcome, but over a longer period). While the shift in tone isn't as drastic as that from UVA rays, according to study author Vermén M. Verallo-Rowell, MD, a dermatologist in Makati City, Philippines, chronic exposure can lead to brown spots that become more noticeable with time. The solution? Broad-spectrum UVA/UVB sunscreen, of course, even if you work in a windowless cube or are simply sitting near a reading lamp at home.

## GOOD AND PLENTY

Like caviar and truffles, luxury skin-care products usually come in unfairly small portions. Now, packaging-conscious beauty companies are offering soda-bottle-size versions of their ultrarich best-sellers, which makes shrinking your landfill contribution easier than ever. Two ELLE Top 5 winners make it big: The 32-ounce Philosophy Purity Made Simple face cleanser (bottom), shown here in lifesize, lasts up to eight months when used twice daily, while the megapopular Kiehl's Creme de Corps (right) is available in a one-liter variety perfect for lotion fiends.

**purity**  
made simple

philosophy: purity is natural. we come into this world with all the right instincts. we are innocent, and therefore perceive things as they should be, rather than how they are. our conscience is clear, our hands clean, and the world at large is truly beautiful. to begin feeling young again, we must feel clean. to feel clean we must cleanse ourselves daily with a little soap, lots of water, and love each step of the way.

one-step facial cleanser  
32 fl. oz. - 946.4 ml



# ARGAN OIL

For a young celeb, sudden stardom can lead to obsessive paparazzi attention and a stint in rehab. For natural ingredients, popularity can be just as dangerous. The success of palm oil led farmers to burn parts of the Indonesian and Malaysian rain forests to plant palm orchards; illegal trading of caviar caused a drop in the rare egg-producing sturgeon; and the overuse of sandalwood has depleted the sweet-smelling Indian tree. Fortunately, the latest botanical phenomenon, the antioxidant argan oil, not only rivals all other free-radical fighters to date, but its high demand will actually help the environment as well.

Pressed from the nut of the argan tree's fruit (a favorite snack of local goats), argan oil has protected the hair and skin of Morocco's Berber women for centuries. Recent research has proven the oil is packed with skin-beneficial compounds: hydrating essential fatty acids, potent antioxidant polyphenols, and nearly three times the amount of vitamin E in olive oil.

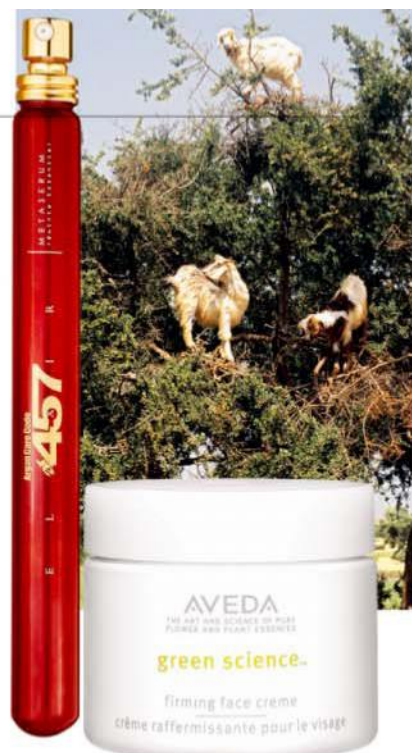
Liz Earle, creator of Liz Earle Naturally Active Skincare, discovered its moisturizing effects at a Moroccan hammam 10 years ago. "It was the best facial I'd ever received," she says. "I had to know more about the oil called the 'gold of Morocco.'" She brought a bottle to her London laboratory for analysis.

The chemists, impressed by its antioxidant activity, formulated Superbalm, a healing skin treatment, around it.

"The antioxidants and fatty acids work synergistically to stop inflammation," says Pat Peterson, the executive director of research and development for Aveda, which is launching a skin-care line, Green Science, based around the extract this month. According to the company's clinical tests, subjects showed a 38 percent improvement in lines after eight weeks of twice-daily use of the argan-rich firming face cream. Plus, scientists believe argan oil may also have anticancer properties. In a study in *Cancer Detection and Prevention*, the growth of three types of in vitro human prostate cancer cells were inhibited 48 hours after being treated with sterols and polyphenols extracted from argan oil.

The extract is proving to have serious girl power, too. In 2002, the Moroccan government helped establish female cooperatives to manufacture argan oil. These programs prevent abuse of the forests' limited supply of trees and provide the workers with a steady income and basic education classes. "Purchasing the oil from the women's cooperatives supports their social and economic welfare," says model Josie Maran, whose namesake beauty brand includes a pure argan oil moisturizer.

Although extracting the ingredient is



**Oil tycoon:** (Clockwise from top) Northwest African goats climbing an argan tree to eat its fruit; argan-oil-laced Aveda Green Science Firming Face Cream and ar457 Elixir

labor-intensive (machines grind the kernels, but each nut needs to be cracked by hand), only a small amount of the oil is needed in a product to deliver results.

As far as some experts are concerned, argan oil is a win-win. "Unlike other exotic resources such as caviar and marine algae, it offers the best of both worlds," says Leslie Baumann, MD, the director of cosmetic dermatology at the Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami. "It's an antiager and it's eco-friendly."

—NICOLE CATANESE

## ELLE TOP 5

Paraben-free body lotions: Top-ranked by ELLE readers, these skin savers contain only natural preservatives



**OH, BABY**  
Buttermilk, aloe, and sunflower oil give **Burt's Bees Baby Bee Buttermilk Lotion** "a subtle, clean smell" and hydrate "even ultradry skin from morning to night."



**KIND BUD**  
The "luscious smelling" **REN Damask Rose Ramnose Biosaccharide Body Cream** has a rich texture that "soaks in fast" and "leaves skin silky-soft."

**NATURAL SELECTION**  
"Packed with nourishing plant lipids," this completely organic **Avalon Organics Hand & Body Lotion** "has a delicate lavender scent."



**BASIC INSTINCT**  
"So light, but so effective," you "can't live without" a daily application of **Kiss My Face Olive & Aloe Ultra Moisturizer**.

**FRESH START**  
You slather on the vitamin C-rich **Aubrey Organics Rose Mosqueta Hand & Body Lotion** to "moisturize sensitive and eczema-prone skin." And "best of all, it's 100 percent vegan."



Log on to [ELLE.com/Top5](http://ELLE.com/Top5) to vote for your beauty favorites and view past poll results.





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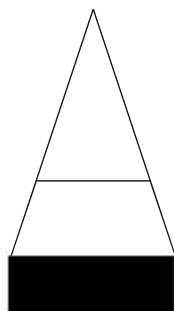




# LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE

Celebrities—they're just like us! Even preternaturally fresh-faced **Kate Hudson** won't leave the house without a little makeup.  
By Megan Deem

Hudson shooting the David Babaii for WildAid campaign in Madikwe, South Africa



actress Kate Hudson isn't ashamed to admit she relies on more than bar soap and Malibu tap water to maintain her good looks. This is one serious product junkie: "You should see my bathroom, which is basically a research lab," she says. It's logical then that she would shift from simply washing with shampoo and conditioner to formulating them. In partnership with her longtime hairstylist, David Babaii, Hudson is launching a 15-piece eco-friendly hair-care range, David Babaii for WildAid. ("David is a professional hairdresser," she says of the decision not to call it after herself. "And I have a hard time seeing myself on magazines, let alone my name on a bottle in drugstores.") The committed animal lovers will donate 10 percent of the profits to the WildAid organization, which helps to end the poaching of endangered species.

**You're nothing if not busy. Why add to your workload?** My close friend developed breast cancer, so I replaced my beauty products containing harmful chemicals. It was hard

to find good hair stuff, though. Our line doesn't have sulfates, parabens, or propylene glycol. **In what other ways do you green your beauty routine?** I use all of Stella McCartney's skin care. It's just awesome; it smells good, it's clean, it's fresh. I also love Juice Beauty, REN, Body Deli, California Baby for my son, although we're working on some baby products right now.... **So you're all eco all the time?** No. I don't go anywhere without Stila Sheer Color Tinted Moisturizer: Ryder, passport, wallet, a little bit of cash, and my Stila moisturizer. **What beauty secrets have you learned from your mom?** Eyebrows—don't let anyone touch your eyebrows. She means painting them in. She feels like there's nothing worse than a brow that's too dark. **What was your all-time good hair day?** The London premiere of *The Skeleton Key*. We were in six countries over four days for the press junket, and David's bag didn't make it from Spain. He did my hair with just the dryer attached to the wall of the hotel bathroom and my Weleda deodorant, which contains alcohol, water, and essential oil of rose. That hairstyle was my favorite, and we haven't been able to replicate it since. ●

## LADIES' MAN

Kate Hudson was the first, but she's not the only A-list client of Los Angeles hairstylist David Babaii. He also counts Gwyneth Paltrow, Scarlett Johansson, and Liv Tyler among his faithful. (Angelina Jolie, another regular, introduced him to WildAid—which, in an only-in-Hollywood chain of events, he then turned Hudson on to.) Often under pressure to create picture-perfect coils for seriously glamorous events, Babaii is humble enough to cop to one slightly major red-carpet hair disaster. "I put a \$100,000 hairpin on Uma Thurman for the Oscars, and I didn't clamp it in well enough, and she lost it," he says. "But that happened after she got photographed, so it was all good."



Babaii



(Clockwise from bottom left) **Juice Beauty Green Apple Peel Full Strength** "is really, really, really good," Hudson says. "It contains enzymes, so it exfoliates"; Hudson raves about the scent of **David Babaii for WildAid Hydrating Shampoo**: "It's coconut and a little beachy, which I love"; **REN Multi-Mineral Detoxifying Facial Mask** "leaves your skin feeling really firm and nice"; **Weleda Wild Rose Deodorant**

Top right: Eric Guillemin; Babaii portrait: Ben Duggan; Hudson inset: Tim Whitby/WireImage.com; products: courtesy of the beauty companies





*Wishing you a  
year of health,  
happiness &  
beautiful skin.  
Love Leslie  
XOX*

Leslie Blodgett  
CEO Bare Escentuals &  
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# GREEN STARS MAKEUP

From an haute organic antiaging serum to an all-natural eyeliner, these products are as luxurious as they are earth-friendly (so says our panel of 18 experts). Can you think of a reason *not* to go natural? Neither can we. By Roopika Nayar



Makeup artist Gucci Westman brushes on runner-up Aveda Inner Light Translucent Loose Powder backstage at the fall '08 Rag & Bone show.



**BEST FOUNDATION**  
Makeup artists are mad for NVEY Eco Moisturising Fluid Foundation. Its soothing organic ingredients calm skin and "deliver an airbrushed, matte finish," says NYC's rising star Souraya Hamdi.



**BEST LIQUID EYELINER**  
Organic Glam Liquid Eye Liner's richly pigmented, long-lasting formula (plus ultrafine brush applicator) makes creating graphic mod lids a no-brainer.



**BEST REMOVER**  
30 Rock makeup artist Jenn Jorge Nelson swears by Aubrey Organics Herbessence Makeup Remover, which she even used on guest star Al Gore. "It leaves zero residue," she says.



**BEST LIP COLOR**  
"The color, consistency, and staying power" of Lush B Mistress's Lipstick Lip Stain "are impressive—and vegan!" says Rimmel makeup artist Jo Strettell.



**BEST CONCEALER**  
L.A. makeup artist Mark Payne, whose clients include Beyoncé, is a fan of Sante Naturkosmetik's jojoba-infused cover sticks (here, in Light Beige). "They go on smooth," he says, "and completely erase dark circles."

All still lifes: Steven Krause; Westman: Jon Gurinsky; makeup artists: courtesy of subjects



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# ELLE BEAUTY GREEN STARS



## BEST EYELINER

"A must-have in every kit" according to makeup artist Rose Librizzi-Davis in Shreveport, Louisiana, glo minerals gloPrecision eye pencils contain finely crushed minerals for "supervelvety, high-impact color."



## BEST BRONZER

Four glimmering powders in Jane Iredale Sunbeam 24K Gold Bronzer blend together to re-create a sun-dappled sheen.



Model Agness Deyn personalizes her reusable water bottle backstage.



## BEST NAIL POLISH

Suncoat water-based lacquers are quick-drying and won't chip for days, say chemical-weary manicurists on our panel.



## BEST MASCARA

Nearly every pro chose Dr. Hauschka Mascara as his or her go-to lash booster. Fortified with neem leaf extract, it strengthens "without clumps," Payne says.



## BEST LIP GLOSS

Natural volumizing agents in the top-ranking Josie Maran Plumping gloss swell lips, while light-reflective particles add dimension.



## BEST BLUSH

The omega-oil and rose-wax-based SukiColor Pure Cream Stain (here, in Sandstone) scored major points for creating a barely there glow.



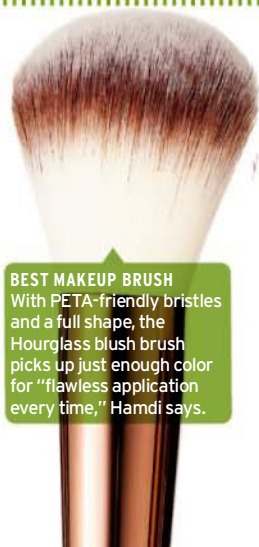
## BEST POWDER

Kiwi import Living Nature's Luminous Pressed Powder has an unbelievably silky texture that earned it an enthusiastic seal of approval.



## BEST EYE SHADOW

Jane Iredale PurePressed Eye Shadows are coveted for their creaseproof formulas and wide range of matte and shimmery shades.



## BEST MAKEUP BRUSH

With PETA-friendly bristles and a full shape, the Hourglass blush brush picks up just enough color for "flawless application every time," Hamdi says.

## BEST LIP BALM

Petroleum-free Nuxe Rêve de Miel Baumé Lèvres employs sunflower oil to "soften lips like no other," says Renata Helfman, a makeup artist and owner of L.A.'s new beauty hub Vert.





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# SKIN



**BEST BODY WASH**  
The biggest crowd-pleaser? REN's sulfate-free Neroli and Grapefruit Body Wash. "The citrusy scent is invigorating," says NYC dermatologist Jeannette Graf, MD.



**BEST ANTIAGING SERUM**  
A miracle pick-me-up in derms' books, Stella McCartney Radiance & Youth Elixir—a polyphenol-rich cocktail—protects cells from free radical damage.

Makeup artists prepped skin with Stella McCartney moisturizer at the designer's recent collection.



**BEST MOISTURIZER**  
Our experts praised Pratima Rejuvenating Pearl Cream, packed with botanicals culled from sustainable farms and natural pearl essence, for its nongreasy feel.



**BEST FACE WASH**  
According to Ellen Marmur, MD, chief of dermatologic and cosmetic surgery at NYC's Mount Sinai Hospital, Terralina cleanser is "gentle and effective."



**BEST SUNSCREEN**  
Rain or shine, our pros slather on hypoallergenic Aveeno Continuous Protection Sunblock Lotion, which contains natural soy to even skin tone while shielding rays (SPF 30).



**BEST BODY SCRUB**  
Nude Moisturizing Body Polish dominated the category since it "exfoliates with organic sugar and hydrates with hibiscus oil," says Beverly Hills dermatologist Julia Hunter, MD.



**BEST BODY CREAM**  
Uhma Nagri paraben-free Rose Body Cream is so intoxicating, "people follow me when I wear it," says Kim D'Amato, owner of Priti Organic Spa in NYC.



**BEST EYE CREAM**  
To help reduce stubborn lines and undereye shadows, Hunter suggests mineral- colloid-and-retinol-laced Results Rx Eye Doctor serum.

All still lifes: Steven Krause; backstage: imaxtree.com; D'Amato: courtesy of D'Amato



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WE TAKE YOU BEHIND THE SCENES  
AS **MARK TOWNSEND** STYLES  
ACTRESS **ELIZABETH REASER** FOR  
HER TURN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Celebrated indie actress **Elizabeth Reaser** achieved a look that was perfectly her own for the 2008 Film Independent Spirit Awards. A Best Actress nominee at last year's Spirit Awards for her performance in *Sweet Land* and an Emmy nominee for her work as Ava on *Grey's Anatomy*, Elizabeth knows that every appearance counts when you're Hollywood's next breakout star. Her upcoming films include Summit Entertainment's *Twilight* and *Against the Current* with Joseph Fiennes.

A supporter of independent style and a proud sponsor of this year's awards, **Biolage** and renowned celebrity hair stylist **Mark Townsend** created Elizabeth's look for her walk down the Spirit Award's whimsical "blue carpet." Using **Biolage**'s new collection of professional styling products, Mark and Elizabeth experimented with varying styles before picking the perfect one for the big day. **Take a look...**

# *spirited* STYLING

 **BIOLAGE**

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BIOLAGE



*“For women, hair is the most important accessory. No matter what look they’re trying to achieve, it always involves a specific hairstyle.”*

—Mark Townsend

To prepare for the Spirit Awards' beachside ceremony, Elizabeth and Mark did a test run. Using new Biolage Stylers, they achieved three different effortlessly chic options. After a spirited discussion they decided on a hairstyle that was right for the day and uniquely her own.



SOFT WAVES/HIGH STYLE



“For loose, stylized waves, apply new **Biolage Volumizing Whipped Mousse** to roots and blow dry. Wrap 1-inch sections around a 1-inch curling iron to create curls. Blend new **Biolage Molding Souffle** and **Shine Endure Spritz** in the palm of your hand and rake through hair to soften the curls into sensuous waves.”



LOW & LOOSE SIDE BUN



“Blow dry hair straight, part to the side, and braid it loosely around the nape of the neck. Twist the hair into a soft side bun and secure with bobby pins. Use new **Biolage Molding Souffle** to smooth the front pieces and new **Shine Endure Spritz** to lock in shine and hold.”



SLEEK & CHIC



“Apply **Biolage Smoothing Shine Milk** to towel-dried hair, then blow dry with a large round brush. Flat iron the hair in small sections to get it sleek and straight. Once finished, spray new **Biolage Freeze Fix Hairspray** onto an eyebrow brush and comb through the hair at the roots to tame any flyaways.”

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BIOLAGE SALON and SPA at the Thompson Beverly Hills Hotel



THE SPIRIT AWARDS on the beach in Santa Monica, CA



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Shelley is wearing Color Sync 8 Warm Neutral & 10 Gold and Matrix V-Light.  
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**BEST BLEMISH CREAM**  
Our skin experts loved the AHA effect of Juice Beauty Blemish Clearing Serum, which reduces spots and brightens complexions in days.



**BEST HAND SANITIZER**  
Talk about a good addiction. "We constantly use Jao Hand Refresher on set," Nelson says. "Its low alcohol percentage won't dry out skin, and it smells great."



**BEST FACE MASK**  
For prep work, Graf recommends Ole Henriksen's super-refreshing Blue/black Berry Enzyme Mask.



**BEST HAND CREAM**  
Ultraquenching organic rose hip oil made Trilogy Rose Hand Cream a nightstand staple for our panel.



**BEST POLISH REMOVER**  
Manicurists across the board were floored by Priti Soy Polish Remover, a toluene- and formaldehyde-free solution that "can be used on all lacquers," says bicoastal manicurist Jenna Hipp.

## GREEN STARS BEAUTY

## HAIR

**BEST ANTIFRIZZ SPRAY**  
To smooth flyaways, stylists including L.A.-based Ian James spritz Giovanni Organic Hair Care Shine of the Times Finishing Mist all over strands.



**BEST SHINE SERUM**  
For a high-gloss, mirrorlike effect, our pros work a dollop of Aveda Light Elements Smoothing Fluid onto ends.



**BEST CONDITIONER**  
L.A. colorist Jonathan Gale loves sodium-lauryl-sulfate-free Your Crown and Glory conditioner. "It makes hair feel thick and healthy," he says.



Hairstylist Odile Gilbert polished ponytails with Aveda Light Elements Smoothing Fluid at the fall '08 Rodarte show.



**BEST HAIRSPRAY**  
MOP Modern Organic Products C-System Firm Finish Strong Hold Hair Spray "is never sticky," says Palm Springs, CA, salon owner Matthew Williams. "So I can use as much as I want."



**BEST SHAMPOO**  
The perfect everyday cleanser, Premier Shampoo "gently nourishes scalps," James says.



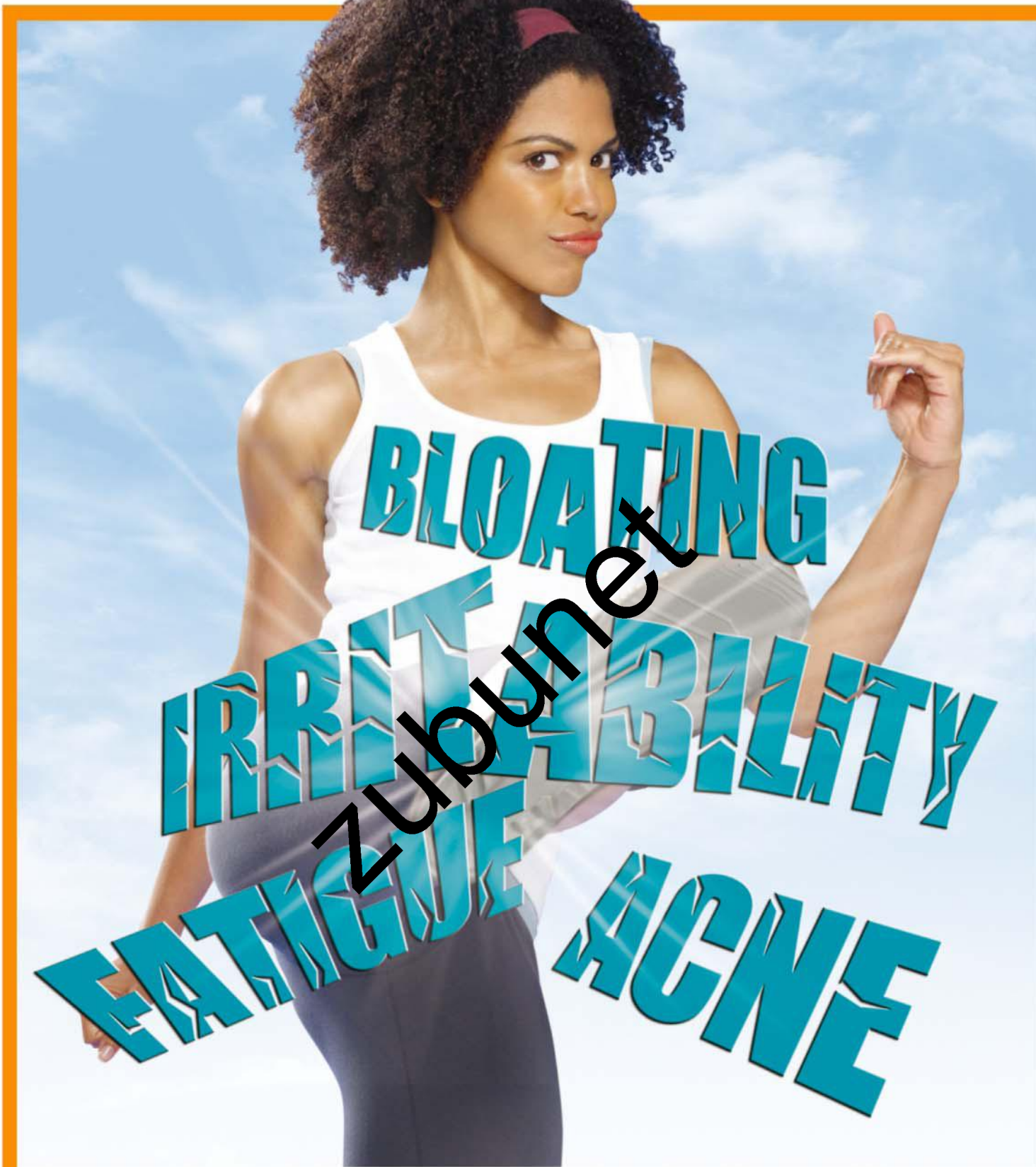
**BEST HAIR MASK**  
Natural Japanese rice bran in Komenuka Bijin Moisturizing Hair Treatment completely restores dry, damaged hair.



**BEST HAIR GEL**  
A fail-safe styling product for many of our experts: John Masters Organics Sweet Orange & Silk Protein aloe-vera-based styling gel.







**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION ABOUT YAZ:**

What are the risks involved with taking any oral contraceptive (OC)? OCs can be associated with increased risks of several serious side effects. OCs do not protect against HIV infection or other STDs. **Women, especially those 35 and over, are strongly advised not to smoke because it increases the risk of serious cardiovascular side effects including blood clots, stroke, and heart attack.**



# READY FOR BIRTH CONTROL THAT GOES BEYOND?

YAZ,<sup>®</sup> like all birth control pills, is 99% effective and can give you shorter, lighter periods. But YAZ goes beyond the rest. It's the first and only contraceptive proven to treat emotional and physical premenstrual symptoms severe enough to impact your life, a condition doctors call PMDD. Symptoms could include:

- Irritability
- Moodiness
- Feeling anxious
- Bloating
- Increased appetite
- Fatigue
- Headaches
- Muscle aches

**YAZ can also help keep your skin clear.** In recent studies, 9 out of 10 women saw improvement in their moderate acne.

YAZ is for women who choose the Pill for contraception. It should be taken as directed, and is available by prescription only.

## Who shouldn't take YAZ?

YAZ contains a different kind of hormone that may increase potassium. Therefore, you should not take YAZ if you have kidney, liver, or adrenal disease, because this could cause serious heart and health problems. Tell your doctor if you are on daily long-term treatment for a chronic condition such as cardiovascular disease or chronic inflammatory disease. Women who take certain drugs (see below) should have their potassium levels checked in the first month of taking YAZ.

**You are encouraged to report serious side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA.**

**Visit [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch), or call 1-800-FDA-1088.**

**You don't have to take it anymore. Talk to your healthcare professional to find out if YAZ is right for you.**



**BEYOND BIRTH CONTROL™**

**[www.YAZ-us.com](http://www.YAZ-us.com)**

**1-866-YAZ-PILL**

What cardiovascular or chronic inflammatory drugs may increase potassium? NSAIDs—ibuprofen (Motrin<sup>®</sup>, Advil<sup>®</sup>), naproxen (Naprosyn<sup>®</sup>, Aleve<sup>®</sup>, and others) when taken long-term and daily for arthritis or other diseases or conditions, Potassium-sparing diuretics (spironolactone and others), Potassium supplementation, ACE inhibitors (Capoten<sup>®</sup>, Vasotec<sup>®</sup>, Zestril<sup>®</sup>, and others), Angiotensin-II receptor antagonists (Cozaar<sup>®</sup>, Diovan<sup>®</sup>, Avapro<sup>®</sup>, and others), Heparin, and Aldosterone antagonists. See important patient information on reverse side.



## BRIEF SUMMARY PATIENT PACKAGE INSERT

### YAZ®

(drospirenone and ethinyl estradiol) Tablets  
containing the following:  
24 light pink – “active” tablets  
4 white – “inert” tablets

**This product (like all oral contraceptives) is intended to prevent pregnancy. It does not protect against HIV infection (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases.**

**YAZ® is different from other birth control pills because it contains the progestin drospirenone. Drospirenone may increase potassium. Therefore, you should not take YAZ if you have kidney, liver or adrenal disease because this could cause serious heart and health problems. Other drugs may also increase potassium. If you are currently on daily, long-term treatment for a chronic condition with any of the medications below, you should consult your healthcare provider about whether YAZ is right for you, and during the first month that you take YAZ, you should have a blood test to check your potassium level.**

- NSAIDs (ibuprofen [Motrin, Advil], naprosyn [Aleve and others] when taken long-term and daily for treatment of arthritis or other problems)
- Potassium-sparing diuretics (spironolactone and others)
- Potassium supplementation
- ACE inhibitors (Capoten, Vasotec, Zestril and others)
- Angiotensin-II receptor antagonists (Cozaar, Diovan, Avapro and others)
- Heparin
- Aldosterone antagonists

### INDICATIONS

1. YAZ is indicated for the prevention of pregnancy in women who elect to use an oral contraceptive.
2. YAZ is also indicated for the treatment of symptoms of premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD) in women who choose to use an oral contraceptive as their method of contraception. The effectiveness of YAZ for PMDD when used for more than three menstrual cycles has not been evaluated.
3. YAZ is indicated for the treatment of moderate acne vulgaris in women at least 14 years of age, who have no known contraindications to oral contraceptive therapy and have achieved menarche. YAZ should be used for the treatment of acne only if the patient desires an oral contraceptive for birth control.

YAZ is an oral contraceptive, also known as a “birth control pill” or “the Pill.” Oral contraceptives are taken to prevent pregnancy, and, when taken correctly without missing any pills, have a failure rate of approximately 1% per year (1 pregnancy per 100 women per year of use). The typical failure rate in pill users is approximately 5% per year (5 pregnancies per 100 women per year of use) when women who miss pills are included. Forgetting to take pills considerably increases the chances of pregnancy.

YAZ may also be taken to treat premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD) if you choose to use the Pill for birth control. Unless you have already decided to use the Pill for birth control, you should not start YAZ to treat your PMDD because there are other medical therapies for PMDD that do not have the same risks as the Pill. PMDD is a mood disorder related to the menstrual cycle. PMDD significantly interferes with work or school, or with usual social activities and relationships with others. Symptoms include markedly depressed mood, anxiety or tension, mood swings, and persistent anger or irritability. Other features include decreased interest in usual activities, difficulty concentrating, lack of energy, change in appetite or sleep, and feeling out of control. Physical symptoms associated with PMDD may include breast tenderness, headache, joint and muscle pain, bloating and weight gain. These symptoms occur regularly before menstruation starts and go away within a few days following the start of the period. Diagnosis of PMDD should be made by healthcare providers.

You should only use YAZ for treatment of PMDD if you:

- Have already decided to use oral contraceptives for birth control, and
- Have been diagnosed with PMDD by your healthcare provider.

YAZ has not been shown to be effective for the treatment of premenstrual syndrome (PMS), a less serious cluster of symptoms occurring before menstruation. If you or your healthcare provider believes you have PMS, you should only take YAZ if you want to prevent pregnancy, and not for the treatment of PMS. YAZ may also be taken to treat moderate acne in women who are able to and wish to use the pill for birth control.

Any woman who needs contraception (birth control) and chooses to use an oral contraceptive should understand the benefits and risks of using the Pill. This leaflet will give you much of the information you will need to help you decide if you are at risk of developing any of the serious side effects. The Pill. It will tell you how to use the Pill properly so that it will be as effective as possible. However, this leaflet is not a replacement for a careful discussion between you and your healthcare professional. You should discuss the information provided in this leaflet with him or her, both when you first start taking the Pill and during your revisits. You should also follow your healthcare professional's advice with regard to regular check-up while you are on the Pill.

For the majority of women, oral contraceptives can be taken safely. But there are some women who are at high risk of developing certain serious diseases that can be life-threatening or may cause temporary or permanent disability or death. The risks associated with taking oral contraceptives increase significantly if you:

- smoke
- have high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol, or are obese
- have or have had clotting disorders, heart attack, stroke, angina pectoris (severe chest pains), cancer of the breast or sex organs, jaundice, or malignant or benign liver tumors.

You should not take the pill if you suspect you are pregnant or have unexplained vaginal bleeding.

Although cardiovascular disease risks may be increased with oral contraceptive use after age 40 in healthy, non-smoking women (even with the newer low-dose formulations), there are also greater potential health risks associated with pregnancy in older women.

**Cigarette smoking increases the risk of serious adverse effects on the heart and blood vessels from oral contraceptive use. This risk increases with age and with heavy smoking (15 or more cigarettes per day) and is quite marked in women over 35 years of age. Women who use oral contraceptives should not smoke.**

Most side effects of the pill are not serious. The most common such effects are nausea, vomiting, bleeding between menstrual periods, weight gain, breast tenderness, and difficulty wearing contact lenses. These side effects, especially nausea and vomiting may subside within the first three months of use.

The serious side effects of the pill occur very infrequently, especially if you are in good health and are young. However, you should know that the following medical conditions have been associated with or made worse by the pill:

1. Blood clots in the legs (thrombophlebitis), lungs (pulmonary embolism), blockage or rupture of a blood vessel in the brain (stroke), blockage of blood vessels in the heart (heart attack and angina pectoris) or other organs of the body. As mentioned above, smoking increases the risk of heart attacks and strokes and subsequent serious medical consequences. Women with migraine headaches also may be at increased risk of stroke when taking the pill.

2. Liver tumors, which may rupture and cause severe bleeding. A possible but not definite association has been found with the pill and liver cancer. However, liver cancers are extremely rare. The chance of developing liver cancer from using the pill is thus even rarer.

3. High blood pressure, although blood pressure usually returns to normal when the pill is stopped.

4. Cancer of the breast. Various studies give conflicting reports on the relationship between breast cancer and oral contraceptive use. Oral contraceptive use may slightly increase your chance of having breast cancer diagnosed, particularly after using hormonal contraceptives at a younger age. After you stop using hormonal contraceptives, the chances of getting breast cancer begin to go back down. You should have regular breast examinations by a healthcare provider and examine your own breasts monthly. Tell your healthcare provider if you have a family history of breast cancer or if you have had breast nodules or an abnormal mammogram. Women who currently have or have had breast cancer should not use oral contraceptives because breast cancer is a hormone-sensitive tumor.

Some studies have found an increase in the incidence of cancer or precancerous lesions of the cervix in women who use the pill. However, this finding may be related to factors other than the use of the pill.

The symptoms associated with these serious side effects are discussed in the detailed leaflet given to you with your supply of pills. Notify your doctor or healthcare provider if you notice any unusual physical disturbances while taking the pill. In addition, drugs such as rifampin, as well as some anticonvulsants, some antibiotics and some herbal products such as St. John's Wort, may decrease oral contraceptive effectiveness.

Taking the pill may provide some important non-contraceptive benefits. These include less painful menstruation, less menstrual blood loss and anemia, fewer pelvic infections, and fewer cancers of the ovary and the lining of the uterus.

Be sure to discuss any medical condition you may have with your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider will take a medical and family history before prescribing oral contraceptives and will examine you. The physical examination may be delayed to another time if you request it and the healthcare provider believes that it is appropriate to postpone it. You should be reexamined at least once a year while taking oral contraceptives. The detailed patient information booklet gives you further information which you should read and discuss with your healthcare provider.

**This product (like all oral contraceptives) is intended to prevent pregnancy. It does not protect against HIV infection (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases such as chlamydia, genital herpes, genital warts, gonorrhea, hepatitis B, and syphilis.**

### INSTRUCTIONS TO PATIENTS

#### HOW TO TAKE THE PILL

#### IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER

#### BEFORE YOU START TAKING YOUR PILLS

1. BE SURE TO READ THESE DIRECTIONS:

Before you start taking your pills.  
Anytime you are not sure what to do.

2. THE RIGHT WAY TO TAKE THE PILL IS TO TAKE ONE PILL EVERY DAY AT THE SAME TIME. YAZ CAN BE TAKEN WITHOUT REGARD TO MEALS.

If you miss pills you could get pregnant. This includes starting the pack late. The more pills you miss, the more likely you are to get pregnant. See “WHAT TO DO IF YOU MISS PILLS” below.

3. MANY WOMEN HAVE SPOTTING OR LIGHT BLEEDING, OR MAY FEEL SICK, IN THEIR STOMACH DURING THE FIRST 1-3 PACKS OF PILLS.

If you do have spotting or light bleeding or feel sick to your stomach, do not stop taking the pill. The problem will usually go away. If it does not go away, check with your healthcare provider.

4. MISSING PILLS CAN ALSO CAUSE SPOTTING OR LIGHT BLEEDING, even when you make up for these missed pills.  
Once you take two pills, to make up for missed pills, you could also feel a little sick to your stomach.

5. IF YOU HAVE VOMITING (within 3 to 4 hours after you take your pill), you should follow the instructions for “WHAT TO DO IF YOU MISS PILLS.” IF YOU HAVE DIARRHEA, or IF YOU TAKE CERTAIN MEDICINES, including some antibiotics and some herbal products such as St. John's Wort, your pills may not work as well.

Use a back-up method (such as condoms or spermicides) until you check with your healthcare provider.

6. IF YOU HAVE TROUBLE REMEMBERING TO TAKE THE PILL, talk to your healthcare provider about how to make pill-taking easier or about using another method of birth control.

7. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR ARE UNSURE ABOUT THE INFORMATION IN THIS LEAFLET, call your healthcare provider.

#### BEFORE YOU START TAKING YOUR PILLS

1. DECIDE WHAT TIME OF DAY YOU WANT TO TAKE YOUR PILL.

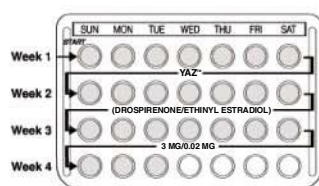
It is important to take YAZ at about the same time every day. YAZ can be taken without regard to meals.

2. LOOK AT YOUR PILL PACK: – IT HAS 28 PILLS:

The YAZ-pill pack has 24 light pink “active” pills (with hormones) to be taken for 24 days, followed by 4 white “reminder” pills (without hormones) to be taken for four days.

3. ALSO FIND:

- 1) Where on the pack to start taking pills,
- 2) In what order to take the pills (follow the arrows)
- 3) The week numbers as shown in the diagram below



4. BE SURE YOU HAVE READY AT ALL TIMES:

ANOTHER KIND OF BIRTH CONTROL (such as condoms or spermicides) to use as a back-up in case you miss pills.

AN EXTRA, FULL PILL PACK.

#### WHEN TO START THE FIRST PACK OF PILLS

You have a choice for which day to start taking your first pack of pills. Decide with your healthcare provider which is the best day for you. Pick a time of day which will be easy to remember.

#### DAY 1 START:

1. Take the first light pink “active” pill of the first pack during the *first 24 hours of your period*.
2. You will not need to use a back-up method of birth control, since you are starting the pill at the beginning of your period.

#### SUNDAY START:

1. Take the first light pink “active” pill of the first pack on the *Sunday after your period starts*, even if you are still bleeding. If your period begins on Sunday, start the pack that same day.
2. Use another method of birth control (such as condoms or spermicides) as a back-up method if you have sex anytime from the Sunday you start your first pack until the next Sunday (7 days).

#### WHEN YOU SWITCH FROM A DIFFERENT BIRTH CONTROL PILL

When switching from another birth control pill, YAZ should be started on the same day that a new pack of the previous birth control pills would have been started.

#### WHAT TO DO DURING THE MONTH

1. **TAKE ONE PILL AT THE SAME TIME EVERY DAY UNTIL THE PACK IS EMPTY**

Do not skip pills even if you are spotting or bleeding between monthly periods or feel sick to your stomach (nausea).

Do not skip pills even if you do not have sex very often.

2. **WHEN YOU FINISH A PACK OF PILLS:**

Start the next pack on the day after your last white “reminder” pill. Do not wait any days between packs.

#### WHAT TO DO IF YOU MISS PILLS

If you **MISS 1** light pink “active” pill in Week 1 of your pack:

1. Take it as soon as you remember. Take the next pill at your regular time. This means you may take two pills in one day.

2. You do not need to use a back-up birth control method if you have sex.

If you **MISS 2** light pink “active” pills in a row in **WEEK 1** or **WEEK 2** of your pack:

1. Take two pills on the day you remember and two pills the next day.
2. Then take one pill a day until you finish the pack.

3. You **COULD BECOME PREGNANT** if you have sex in the *7 days* after you restart your pills. You **MUST** use another birth control method (such as condoms or spermicides) as a back-up for those 7 days.

If you **MISS 2** light pink “active” pills in a row in **WEEK 3** or **Week 4** of your pack:

1. If you are a **Day 1 Starter:**

THROW OUT the rest of the pill pack and start a new pack that same day.

If you are a **Sunday Starter:**

Keep taking one pill every day until Sunday. On Sunday, THROW OUT the rest of the pack and start a new pack of pills that same day.

2. You **COULD BECOME PREGNANT** if you have sex in the *7 days* after you restart your pills. You **MUST** use another birth control method (such as condoms or spermicides) as a back-up for those 7 days.

3. You may not have your period this month but this is expected. However, if you miss your period two months in a row, call your healthcare provider because you might be pregnant.

If you **MISS 3 OR MORE** light pink “active” pills in a row during **ANY Week:**

1. If you are a **Day 1 Starter:**

THROW OUT the rest of the pill pack and start a new pack that same day.

If you are a **Sunday Starter:**

Keep taking 1 pill every day until Sunday. On Sunday, THROW OUT the rest of the pack and start a new pack of pills that same day.

2. You **COULD BECOME PREGNANT** if you have sex in the *7 days* after you restart pills. You **MUST** use another birth control method (such as condoms or spermicides) as a back-up for those 7 days.

3. You may not have your period this month but this is expected. However, if you miss your period two months in a row, call your healthcare provider because you might be pregnant.

If you **MISS ANY** of the 4 **white “reminder”** pills in **Week 4:**

THROW AWAY the pills you missed.

Keep taking one pill each day until the pack is empty.

You do not need a back-up method of birth control.

**FINALLY, IF YOU ARE STILL NOT SURE WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE PILLS YOU HAVE MISSED:**

Use a BACK-UP METHOD (such as condoms or spermicides) anytime you have sex.

KEEP TAKING ONE ACTIVE LIGHT PINK PILL EACH DAY until you can contact your healthcare provider.

For additional information see “Detailed Patient Labeling”

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**Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals**

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# IN A LATHER

Can a chemical-free shampoo work as well as the average sudsmaker? **Megan Deem** dons her lab coat to find out

I've mixed dropperfuls of pungent essential oils with sea salt and called it a bath soak. One ambitious afternoon, I transformed strawberries and oatmeal into face masks and hair treatments in a (failed) bid to establish a 100-percent-natural beauty regimen. The point is, I'm not a chemist, but I do have what I'll call a "product development background." Which comes in handy when Mia West from Eufora hair care in San Diego calls to see if I'll help the company create a clarifying shampoo. And not an it-could-be-dish-detergent sudser, either—a good-for-the-earth version that even your vegan cousin would approve of.

Eufora also promises to donate \$1 from every bottle of the shampoo sold to the charity of ELLE's choice. We go with Stop-GlobalWarming.org, founded by this issue's guest editor, Laurie David. Clearly, our creation will have to uphold certain standards.

Which presents a problem—at least to

me. When I'd read the news years ago that certain foaming agents such as sodium lauryl sulfate could maybe, possibly, lead to liver toxicity, I had swapped my until-that-point perfectly serviceable but now potentially questionable shampoo for one made with a natural lather-builder. And it sucked. As did the alternatives I sampled. All turned my hair greasy and dull. To my mind, *natural* and *clarifying* couldn't be in the same sentence, much less product. It would be like linking *Dita Von Teese* with *low-maintenance*.

But who doesn't love a challenge? Eufora had signed the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics Compact, pledging not to formulate using chemicals suspected of causing health issues, such as cancer or birth defects. No phthalates (plasticizers tied to endocrine disruption), no petrochemicals (crude oil derivatives that may contain carcinogens), no parabens (a chemical preservative), and no sulfates. To be fair, the Food and Drug Administration points out that all these ingredients have been used for decades with

no large-scale side effects reported.

Before our first conference call, I research oils with purifying abilities. My list includes lemongrass, yarrow, and citronella. But as it turns out, essential oils can strip dye—which I have in abundance in my "blond" hair. Oops. (They're okay for scenting shampoo though, as that doesn't take much.)

After establishing what we *can't* put in our shampoo (and its postconsumer recycled plastic bottles), Beth Bewley, who owns Eufora with her husband, Don Bewley, and I discuss what definitely has to make it into the final formulation. Widely used, chelators encapsulate other particles, such as heavy metals, then are easily rinsed away. Our shampoo needs chelators—specifically, a biodegradable form new to hair care, Natrlquest E30.

We also have to develop the fragrance. I end up with seven small brown glass vials, each marked with a number. For nearly a week, everyone who comes into my office votes on her favorite. When the dust settles, a minty blend (A-#319-613) is the people's choice.

The trial shampoo bottle that arrives a week later is like a blind date. The promise of everlasting love is there, but you could just as easily find yourself tossing his number in disgust. To my overwhelming relief, our product is incredibly foamy, like a "real" shampoo. After washing with it, my roots aren't greasy. Other testers describe the effects as "light," "not dry," and "not dirty at all."

But those are just opinions. For incontrovertible facts, Don brings hair samples taken before and after shampooing to a chemist. The initial strands are covered with build-up, as expected. After washing, the shafts are 30 percent thinner—a good thing, as it means the strands are back to their normal, clean size.

For a name, we turn to readers on ELLE.com, who enter suggestions like Root Awakening. The Bewleys decide to add our creation to their existing Urgent Repair line. After the votes are tallied, Detoxify, submitted by hairstylist Nicole Bratt-Maloney of Grass Valley, California, wins. I present Eufora Urgent Repair Shampoo, A Detoxifying Cleansing Treatment. Bratt-Maloney gets \$500 to donate to charity (she picks her local chapter of the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition), as well as Eufora products worth \$500.

Companies spend years on product development. Our project, on counters this month, required just five months. More impressive, without resorting to blended berry hair smoothies, I've gotten natural into my head.



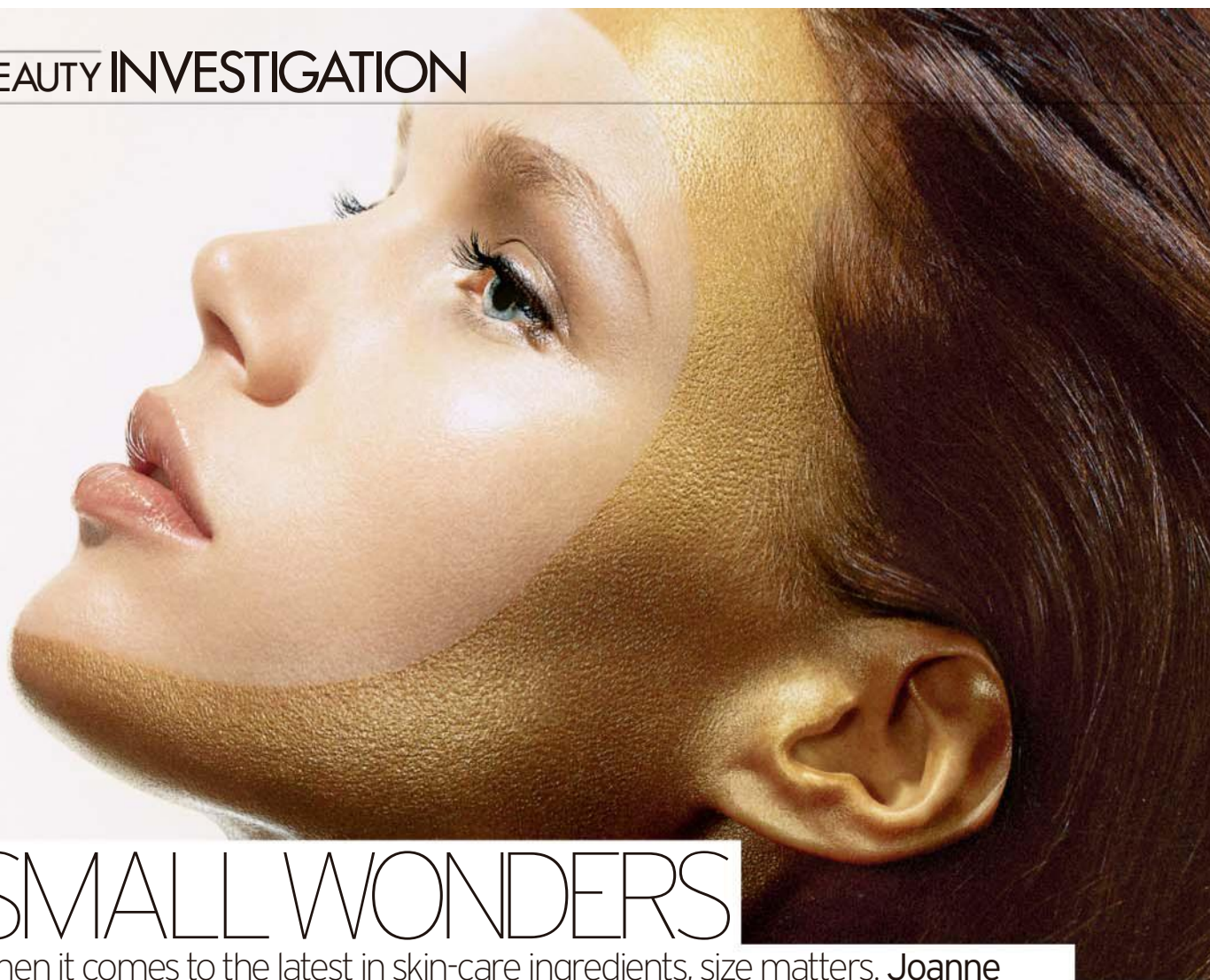
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## SMALL WONDERS

When it comes to the latest in skin-care ingredients, size matters. Joanne Chen discovers why nanotechnology could be the next big thing

**M**anhattan hairstylist Patrick Melville gets a lot of free stuff. Media-savvy hair companies, hoping he'll pass on their potions to his starry clientele, send him an endless supply of goos, hot irons, ponytail holders, and other goodies. This might sound like a dream come true to you, but Melville is a creature of habit, a swag skeptic who prefers his old standbys. A skeptic, that is, until he came across one particular hair dryer. "It's genius!" he tells me one afternoon. "It's powerful. It's light. And with thick hair like yours, I could be done in three swipes." Melville's magic tool, the FHI Heat Nano Salon Pro 2000 dryer, is powered in part by nanoparticles, ultrasmall bits of titanium and silver that ionize the air before it leaves the blower. The result: Hair dries faster and looks shinier.

Like Melville, the U.S. government and a host of eager entrepreneurs have

developed a crush on nanotechnology, the science of substances sized one ten thousandth of a millimeter and smaller, or one hundred thousandth of the diameter of a strand of hair. Once downsized, common materials can take on almost supernatural powers. Nanogold transforms into a catalytic agent, and carbon, Clark Kent-like, suddenly acquires a strength 100 times that of steel. What's more, nanoiron, potentially the planet's most promising house cleaner, can mop up messy chemical and oil spills. This summer, Olympic staffers who brave Beijing streets will park their rental cars on lots coated with a nanopolymer that absorbs exhaust; gold medalists and armchair athletes alike can now wear socks laced with nanosize antibacterials.

Determined to take the lead globally, the Feds are pouring \$1.5 billion into

nanotechnology-related research and development across multiple agencies in the coming fiscal year. There is no Department of Beauty Planning, of course, but cosmetics companies have been quick to steer these innovations into the skin- and hair-care realms to make shampoos silkier and creams creamier, and, in some cases, to superpower antiaging ingredients. Consider, for instance, the DHCLight & Smooth Shampoo and Conditioner, whose star ingredient is 18MEA, something its label describes as a "naturally occurring nutritive compound found in hair." By shrinking the conditioning oil molecules down to 50 to 70 nanometers, the formula offers extra hair protection. "With nanotechnology, we're able to fabricate little devices and delivery systems," says John Bailey, PhD, chief scientist at the Personal Care Products Council in Washington, DC. "This goes beyond any technology we've seen before. It's more sophisticated."

Sophisticated, yes, but probably already gathering dust on your bathroom shelf. Way back in the '90s, the FDA approved nanosize mineral sunblocks. Pulverized



The riches: Chantecaille Nano Gold Energizing Cream

Nasser Meili; product: courtesy of the company



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## ELLE BEAUTY INVESTIGATION

titanium dioxide and zinc oxide (reduced to 10 to 70 nanometers) go on almost clear but offer better UV protection than the chalky, opaque oxide-blockers of old (remember Zinka?) because the smaller particles, with their increased surface area, scatter light in different directions instead of largely reflecting it. Last summer, the Environmental Working Group (EWG), one of the most aggressive cosmetics watchdog organizations (and the folks behind the beauty-product-safety website Skin Deep, at [Cosmeticsdatabase.com](http://Cosmeticsdatabase.com)), focused its (solar-powered) spotlight on sunblock nanotech. In the definitive report, EWG researchers admit that they "expected to reach a different conclusion at the outset of our sunscreen investigation," but that, based on all the current data available, including 15 independent peer-reviewed studies, nanosize titanium dioxide and zinc oxide are among "the most effective sunscreens on the market."

### DEPTH CHARGE

The EWG and other health activists aren't quite as gung ho about other forms of nanotechnology, specifically those that penetrate. (Mineral sunblocks, even in their micronized form, tend to stay on the skin's surface, bonding together in raspberry-like structures.) For decades, skin-care chemists have protected fragile or unstable active ingredients (like vitamin C) in liposomes, phospholipids capsules that keep their cargo stable indefinitely when in the jar, then burst like microscopic water balloons when they hit the skin. If the liposome is your chunky, clunky well-loved first iPod, a nanosome is an nth-generation iPod, the hearing-aid-size one that Steve Jobs will persuade you to buy in a few years. For skin, this could mean a melanin-chomping nano that munches away brown spots or collagen-building powerhouses that fill in wrinkles from the bottom up. Sylvie Chantecaille developed her buttery Nano Gold Energizing Cream to showcase gold nanoparticles dressed in silk peptides. The peptides enhance the movement of the gold into the skin, she says, allowing it to penetrate "deeper to the base of the epidermis" and soothe inflammation. Japanese Derm-Avance Hyalogy Nourishing Cream contains five-nanometer particles of hyaluronic acid, a powerful hydrating molecule that, in its original form, is too large to pass through the top layer of skin.

I asked Adnan Nasir, MD, a Raleigh-based dermatologist who spoke on nanotechnology at the recent annual American Academy of Dermatology meeting, if these ingredients really work. "I think there is

Mighty mites: FHI Heat Nano Weight Pro Turbo 1900 dryer



theoretical evidence to support that a product with a five-nanometer size can penetrate all the way to the dermis," he says, though the safety of products once they get down that far hasn't been proven. That said, topical painkillers—potent, prescription-only nano formulas—are in trials: by applying them directly to your forehead (or knee or back) à la the infamous, non-nano HeadOn rather than popping a pill, you get up to 80 times more medicine into the muscle and up to six times less of it in your blood plasma. To keep skin care from requiring a doctor's script, chemists are trying to preprogram their future nanotech to self-destruct before they hit the dermal-epidermal junction.

But just as that little iPod of the future will inevitably get lost at the bottom of your F/W 2010 Balenciaga Giant purse, nanosomes could shimmy through the dermis, sliding into nerve endings, even into blood cells, surfing their way through the circulatory system. (One researcher I interviewed noted that if you were the size of a nano, a regular human blood cell would be the equivalent of seven miles wide.) Nano proponents envision a world in which nanos with a cause will scrub away arterial plaque and blast blood clots to prevent strokes. But those who are antinano worry that, at the very least, our veins and blood cells could become mini landfills, full of obsolete technology, nanometals and microplastics too small for the body to process.

It's the contradicting promises from nanotech marketers that worry Andrew Maynard, PhD, chief science advisor to the Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC. "On one hand, there are claims of no penetration; on the other, claims of enhanced penetration. This highlights the lack of good information available and the need to do more research." Guidelines, say environmental groups, are urgently needed. And so are more studies. Problem is, as with all technology, before we truly understand a science, researchers are onto the next new thing. Indeed, L'Oréal physicist Francis Quinn tells me that there's already talk of picotechnology, the manipulation of matter 1,000 times smaller than a nano—making my new FHI Heat Nano Weight Pro Turbo 1900 dryer sound downright old-fashioned. ●



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# BUSINESS MODELS

Model turned actress? Try **model turned entrepreneur**. These goodwill beauty ambassadors are using their professional experience to develop charitable and eco-friendly skin-care and makeup lines. By Roopika Nayar



## Patricia Velásquez

**CATWALK CALL:** At just 20, Venezuelan model Velásquez landed a casting with Karl Lagerfeld, quickly becoming the face of Chanel—and later L'Oréal Paris, CoverGirl, and Pantene.

**CAUSE CÉLÈBRE:** In 2002, she started the Wayúu Tayá Foundation to support indigenous communities in her native country. “My mother is Wayúu Indian, and I’ve always wanted to help,” Velásquez says. Her skin-care line, Kalma (which, after eight years in the making, finally hits stores later this year), incorporates organic ingredients (ginger root extract and cranberry seed oil) used by local tribes. “Even the pouches the products come in are made by Wayúu women,” she says.

**PERSONAL BEST:** “My serum has an amazingly silky texture,” Velásquez says, “and a subtle, fruity scent.”



(Clockwise from top left)  
“I love the way **CLÉ DE PEAU BEAUTÉ** foundation melts into skin.” **KALMA** serum. **DDF** Daily Organic SPF 15 “is amazingly lightweight.” For evening fetes, she blends **CHANEL** Les Quatre Ombres eye shadow (here in Bleu Cèstes) all over lids.



## Josie Maran

**CATWALK CALL:** Born and raised in northern California, Maran sealed her fate as a fresh-faced American icon thanks to major contracts with Guess? and Maybelline New York in the late '90s.

**CAUSE CÉLÈBRE:** “Growing up, my family was really sensitive to, and conscious of, the environment,” Maran says. Sitting in countless makeup chairs over 17 years, “I realized there was a need for a line that was not only made from natural and organic ingredients,” she says, “but that could give professional results and still feel really luxurious.”

**PERSONAL BEST:** Maran loves her paraben-free mascara, which took two years to formulate. “The ingredients had to be perfect since you’re putting them near your eyes,” she says. “Mine has jojoba oil to nourish lashes.”



(Clockwise from top left)  
“My **FINGER PAINTS** in Sweet are creamy, so they’re easy to apply and look dewy on cheeks.” **YAROK** Green With Envy Conditioner “is gentle enough to use every day.” The scent of **JO WOOD** Usuku body oil “was the only thing that helped soothe me during my daughter’s natural delivery.” **JOSIE MARAN** mascara in black.



## Daria Werbowy

**CATWALK CALL:** Not only is Canadian supermodel Werbowy the face of Lancôme—she’s also a fixture on the high-profile runways of Versace, Chloé, and Christian Dior.

**CAUSE CÉLÈBRE:** After visiting the Centro Espacial Vik Muniz, an arts education center for poverty-stricken children in Rio de Janeiro, Werbowy was inspired to create a limited-edition makeup collection for Lancôme with proceeds benefiting the kids. “Their positivity and happiness is incredible,” Werbowy says. “I wanted to capture their natural beauty and the colors of Brazil.”

**PERSONAL BEST:** “Mixing lipsticks was great,” Werbowy says. “We came up with a shade that’s flattering on everyone”—including on the two male product developers who tested her lab samples. “I had to see what the color looked like!” she says.



(Clockwise from top left)  
“I stock up on **PANGEA ORGANICS** bar soap at Whole Foods.” The laupe shade in the **LANCÔME** Daria Werbowy Collection shadow palette “can be layered to look dramatic.” **KÉRASTASE** Serum Nutri-Sculpt “controls my frizz in the summer.” **LANCÔME** Secret de Vie eye cream is “slightly cooling and doesn’t leave a film.”



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## BIG GULP

A flood of designer juice fasts promise to boost health, whittle waists, and reset less-than-perfect eating habits. Maggie Bullock hits the bottle

You know you've stumbled upon strange times when, after telling a colleague you're feeling seriously under the weather—throbbly, achy, full-body-hangover bad—she responds with an ear-to-ear grin: “Amaaazing. Me, too.”

To which you offer an even stranger reply: “I’m so excited! I wonder what happens next!”

Despite what any rational bystander might have gathered from this exchange, neither of us is a complete imbecile. Well, not exactly. We’re just in the grip of juice mania. It was day one of my five-day juice fast, and I already knew such discomfort was supposedly a good sign, an indication that, due to a sudden self-inflicted shortage of flour, sugar, salt, and Diet Coke—as opposed to, say, smack—my body was experiencing a milder form of the sweaty, post-downward-spiral withdrawal most commonly seen in rock-star biopics (see exhibits *Walk the Line*, *Ray*).

Last year, when my sidekick Kevin tried to beg off from my birthday dinner because he was on the abusive, puritanical godfather of all juice fasts, the Master Cleanse (a bare-bones diet introduced in the 1940s that consists of cayenne-pepper-spiked, maple-syrup-sweetened lemonade and warm, saltwater morning “flushes”), I mocked him mercilessly until he surrendered, three days later and four pounds lighter.

But diets, like fashion, come in waves. The more unlikely one first appears, the more inevitable its adoption—however brief—soon becomes. By January, when *Page Six* reported that Gwyneth Paltrow, who had fallen mysteriously ill, had asked Manhattan health-nut haven Organic Avenue to deliver its mostly juice L.O.V.E. fast straight to her hospital room, a “Live, Organic, Vegan Experience”—one that is conspicuously free of chewing—had begun to



sound relatively appealing. And not just to me:

Everywhere I looked, women were skipping lunch to swig from little bottles filled by some enterprising young juice guru.

Two years ago, serial entrepreneur Tim Martin started selling juices to his Hollywood Hills housemates; then he got the neighbors hooked. Soon, he says, “I realized I might have something here.” Now, with a host of celebs swearing by his home-delivered, ultrafresh, organic iZO Cleanze juice diet, Martin is already preparing to set up shop in New York City, San Francisco, and Chicago. For the geographically or financially challenged (his fresh juices cost a whopping \$175 per day), iZOCleanze.com also offers a range of powdered extracts and supplements (\$150 for three days’ worth, \$300 for a week’s) designed to turn home-pressed and prepackaged juices, and even plain old water, into nutrient-packed internal Mr. Clean.

My own cleansing cocktails came

straight to my door courtesy of New York City-based Blueprint, the brainchild of Zoe Sakoutis and Erica Huss Jones, two nutrition-savvy hospitality industry veterans whose string-bean bods are walking billboards for their fast. Or, as they prefer to call it, juice *feast*. “It’s not a fast, because it’s not deprivation. It’s not a diet, because it’s not just about losing weight,” Sakoutis says. “And it’s not detox...that’s just a trendy word—‘Oh, Britney’s in detox!’” Blueprint estimates that a single day’s worth of its elixirs (six 16-ounce recyclable plastic bottles delivered in a handy Velcro cooler) contains up to 10 pounds of kale, spinach, romaine, celery, and cucumber; a five-day supply packs in approximately 20 apples and 15 lemons. Blueprint offers three levels: Renovation, Foundation, and the terrifying-sounding Excavation, with descending calorie counts; my level-two plan contains roughly 1,700 per day, more than many diets that require actual mastication (difficult to imagine, given the juices’ innocent



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# ELLE BEAUTY OBSESSION

ingredients and pulpless, watery consistency, which make humble Tropicana seem substantial). "We try to steer people away from calorie-oriented thinking, though," Huss Jones says. "Fifteen hundred calories of raw juice versus 1,500 calories of bagels make you feel totally different and are absorbed and stored by the body in very different ways. With juice, there's no waste."

Both Blueprint and iZO Cleanze offer wildly seductive promises, including increased energy, rapid weight loss, clearer skin, a more lucid focus, and, according to Martin, "an incredible amount of energy—euphoria, basically." Beyond the obvious benefits of marinating in more fruits and veggies than one could possibly consume with a knife and fork, devout juicers believe minimizing the body's digestive process allows it to shift into high-gear cleansing,

scouring out a backlog of waste and toxins that our systems are normally too overtasked to get around to.

Science-wise, though, this is where things start to get tricky. "Physiologically, that doesn't really fly," says Gayl Canfield, PhD, the director of nutrition at the Pritikin Longevity Center & Spa in Aventura, Florida. "If you're drinking juice for breakfast instead of having a cup of coffee and a donut, yeah, you're going to feel better. But your body goes through the exact same digestive process with juice that it does with actual food; it just doesn't have the fiber, which, actually, it would prefer." Both iZO Cleanze and Blueprint recommend fiber supplements and, for the truly committed, clearing things out with colonics. This seems strange, even to a would-be convert like me: If a diet is giving you everything you need,

should pills and procedures be necessary?

Actually, colonics may be what separate hard-core cleansers from moderate healthy eaters. "Most medical people are saying, Yes, there's some impacted stuff in your colon, but if you don't have symptoms, you don't need to worry about it," says Joshua Rosenthal, the founder of New York City's Institute for Integrative Nutrition, a sort of academic Switzerland in which Eastern and Western theories get equal floor space. "Others believe clearing that material away will lead to high-level wellness. You're not just trying to avoid symptoms, you're trying to feel fabulous every day." (Incidentally, when Rosenthal and three colleagues tried a round of colonics, they had significantly worse digestive health afterward.)

Colonics also stray into the other major gray area of juice-fasting and detox-dieting in general: They're supposedly one more way of ridding oneself of built-up toxins—that one-word catchall for all the chemical ills of modern life. For every food guru who claims we can aid the body's detox process, there is a medical school full of doctors who say we can't. "There are toxins in everything you eat, drink, and breathe. Some occur naturally in foods, some are created by your body during exercise and digestion, some are from artificial additives, and some come from environmental sources," Canfield says. "There's no doubt—the more you're exposed to, the higher the chance you'll get sick from them."

The question, however, is just how much our own built-in purification plant—the liver and the kidneys—can flush out. Regular fasters like Martin believe our systems, which were designed long before preservatives and fake sweeteners infiltrated our diets, need backup; his powdered potions include the iZO Sponge, aka the "intestinal drawing formula," which contains a rather unappetizing mix of activated charcoal and zeolite and volcanic benzonite clays, and an iZO Detoxo drink made from a raw fermented seaweed and mushrooms he claims bind to heavy metals.

Canfield is skeptical. "I'm not aware of any herbs or supplements that have been proven to help 'draw' toxins out of the body," she says. They may not be necessary anyway. "Even mercury, an environmental heavy metal that does stay in the body for some time, can be eliminated and detoxified naturally over time," she says.

I'm not dedicated enough to the cause to Hoover out my colon just yet. Besides, whether there's any wisdom in taking a break from digestion or not—and even if detoxing turns out to be a total sham—juicing appeals to me for a different reason: I fantasize about a clean slate, a break from



## BLUEPRINT CLEANSE

**THE PROMISE** Six 100-percent vegan, raw, mostly organic, hydraulic-pressed juices (above) per day will "trigger your body to cleanse, gently detox, and, yes, lose some serious baggage," says BlueprintCleanse.com. **THE VERDICT** "No morning oatmeal? No

postwork wine? I never realized how much meals oriented me throughout the day," says Caroline, an ELLE staffer. "But restlessness soon gave way to an ethereal-feeling high, like I could give up eating forever. I'm pretty sure my friends found me intolerable."



## MASTER CLEANSE

**THE PROMISE** According to Stanley Burroughs' *The Master Cleanser* (Burroughs Books), six to 12 10-ounce gulps of Grade B maple syrup, cayenne pepper, lemon juice, and distilled water, plus a daily glass of sea-salt-infused water, will eliminate toxins, cleanse kidneys,

and "keep youth and elasticity." **THE VERDICT** "It was surprisingly filling, but the experience was isolating," says Chad, an NYC-based stylist. "And inconvenient. After the salt water, I couldn't leave the house for at least two hours. If you know what I mean."



## IZO CLEANZE

**THE PROMISE** Choose fresh-pressed, on-your-doorstep juices or mail-order powdered concentrates (above). According to iZOCleanze.com, either one will "transform your health." **THE VERDICT** "Nothing's more disgusting than a mouthful of Superfood concentrate, but

the hemp milk was so delicious it's now part of my regular diet," says Eve, an L.A.-based writer, who was fresh off of iZO's five-day, home-delivered fast. "I used to be a total sugar and coffee junkie. Now I look at both like, Geez, what's that going to do for my body?"



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my normal eating habits that would allow me to press the lifestyle reset button. Canfield and Rosenthal sagely point out that getting healthier and cleaning up your act doesn't require quitting food altogether; they say adopting a long-term "clean" whole foods diet would do as much for us, if not more. Which sounds great, if you happen to be equipped with ironclad willpower and, even better, a personal chef. A few days of juicing, I reasoned, could be just the dietary jump start I needed.

The key, according to Martin, is "divorcing yourself from the idea that you need solid food." A ridiculous and suspiciously eating-disorderesque mandate, to be sure, but, I soon learned, one that is sur-really doable. Abstaining was about as much fun as filing taxes the night I sipped cashew-nut milk and watched a friend heartlessly wolf down fried chicken. But while

dered food obsessively. Alone on my couch that night, picturing all my solids-eating friends out in the world chewing themselves into oblivion, I allowed myself one of the semisanctioned "cheats" on Blueprint's list: a measly cup of brown rice, which made me feel both absurdly guilty and utterly uncomfortable.

But "transitioning"—as it's known in juice-speak—off the fast was mind-blowing. Not only did I feel healthy and recharged, I also seemed to be an amazingly disciplined new self, insusceptible to cravings, bored by carbs, totally over refined sugars. For several weeks, I stocked my fridge with soy milk and fruit galore, sweetened my green tea with all-natural agave nectar, and left Mr. Coffee unplugged.

Fasting, I had already been told, was not a long-term strategy. "If a fast lasts much longer than two or three days, the body ac-

tually begins to break down some of its own tissue to get enough amino acids," Canfield says.

And there was this from Rosenthal: "When you go a week or a month on just juice, the body doesn't know your head decided to do this. It re-



I was a juice supremacist, an ascetic robot capable of survival, food or no food.

I missed the sensation of fullness, technically, my body was getting along just fine without it. Plus, by day two, all withdrawal symptoms had passed; my eyes seemed brighter, and I woke up looking depuffed even without coffee. And shedding six pounds in five days without getting anywhere near a treadmill is enough to make a girl wonder if she'll ever go solid again.

Still, there's a reason why some juice-heads—including the yogis and health-food-store denizens for whom juicing and periodic fasting are part of an age-old lifestyle—aren't just out to spring-clean their colons: Not eating sharpens one's navel gaze considerably. Within 36 foodless hours, I had developed a sense of otherness and—okay, maybe I was bit delirious—a vague sort of superiority. I was a juice supremacist, an ascetic robot capable of survival, food or no food. Every whiff of emotion, every physical sensation could be correlated to the cleanse: Is this stuff making my hands cold? Is it making me tired? Sad? Irritable? Me! Me! Me! (See where I'm going with this?)

On Thursday, well past a work deadline and desperately in need of a chocolate-chip cookie to temper my temper, I pon-

sponds the way it's been programmed to for centuries when there's no food: holding onto its calories and then demanding all the nutrients that were lost. When I check in with people three or six months after a fast, a lot of them have gone back to their former eating habits, in some cases to worse."

Still, curiosity got the better of me: If five days could get me this far, what could 10 do? But by the time I borrowed a friend's juicer and lugged home seven jars of iZO Cleanze, plus a jug of maple syrup just in case I decided to try the Master Cleanse (strictly for research, of course!), the cold arrived. More precisely, the respiratory infection. And the shingles, aka adult chicken pox—painfully new to me and apparently a harbinger of immune system doom. "But I've never eaten so many fruits and vegetables," I wailed to my doctor. "I cleansed! I purified! I flooded my system with phytonutrients!"

He cut me off. "I'm not saying that going on a juice cleanse gave you shingles, but did it give you enough zinc? How about magnesium?" he said, scribbling out a prescription. "Nutrition is about balance. And you, by the way, sound like an infomercial."



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Each of the soy-and-wax-based Pacifica Solid Perfume balms (clockwise from top right, in Hawaiian Ruby Guava, Tahitian Gardenia, Sandalwood, and Waikiki Pikake) smells like a gentle Kauai breeze.

**CALMING INFLUENCE**

Meant to lull before bed, Scensoir Parfum de Rêves ("perfume of dreams") fragrances contain sleep-inducing notes such as bergamot and lavender.

**DUAL NATURED** Two silky shades in Physicians Formula Organic Wear Natural Origin Bronzer (here, in Healthy Glow) blend together for a flirty flush.

**LIP REPLACEMENT**

Everything pouts need in one recyclable tube: Smashbox Cosmetics Green Room Collection Hybrid 2 in 1 Color & Shine gloss (from left, in Azalea and Marigold) relies on antioxidant-rich moringa seed extract for moisture and shine.

**CLEAN SWEEP**

Botanical arnica extract in Arcona eye-makeup remover erases every trace of mascara, while chamomile and white tea soothe delicate skin.

**BOTTOMS UP**

Revive tired feet with Panpuri A Path Less Ordinary Foot Herbal Salt Bath, an exotic mix of lemongrass, tea tree, and basil.

**ECO-CHEEK** How do you improve an already iconic cream blush? Do as Tarte did and formulate a green version with mineral pigments, shea butter, and zero parabens.

**FINGER FOOD**

Butter London's chemical-free polishes come in a range of hot-off-the-runway punk hues, including the milky Cream Tea (shown above).

**MATH MAJOR** A 12.5 percent concentration of powerful, naturally derived active ingredients (vitamin E and grape polyphenols, to name a few) makes SheerinO'kho Eye Cream 100 percent effective in reducing fine lines.

**BAR HOP** With as many daily celeb drop-ins as Starbucks, L.A.'s Soaptopia churns out more than 40 varieties of cleansing bars (from top, in Rozilla Vs. Dry Skinea and Pepperlyptus Rex) with intensely aromatic oils—think rose-vanilla and peppermint-eucalyptus.

# IT LIST

From perfume to nail polish, our favorite products are pretty, fragrant, and P.S., all green.  
By Roopika Nayar

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Katie Wright and son Christian from the Autism Speaks documentary *Autism Everyday*

# THE LOST BOY

Katie Wright had a gorgeous, bubbly two-year-old son. Months later, he was quiet, sickly, somehow deeply disturbed. Katie's search for answers has pitted her against scientists, media critics, and even her own parents—all of whom are toiling to unravel the causes of autism, one of the most terrifying, and growing, medical mysteries of our time. By Rachael Combe

In a subterranean ballroom of the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta, the chandeliers twinkle over a gaily colored shantytown of booths. T-shirts pinned to a temporary wall read AUTISM: IT'S NO MYSTERY. IT'S MERCURY. and MERCURY POISONING: KID TESTED FDA APPROVED. Mothers, looking simultaneously exhausted and elated, wander between row after row of card tables offering supplements, gluten-free-dairy-free snacks, and educational videos. A freestanding cedar sauna has been built in one corner, affixed with a large picture of a beaming Jenny McCarthy giving the thumbs-up: JENNY LOVES HER HEAVENLY HEAT FIR SAUNA!!! This is the annual meeting of the National Autism Association (NAA), an autism support group.

The organization attracts parents who subscribe to the environmental theory of autism—one of the most controversial medical ideas of our time. They believe that their children's disorder was triggered by toxic chemicals, notably mercury in vaccines, and can be aided with alternative therapies. Autism is conventionally recognized as a "spectrum" of neurological disorders with onset before age three, marked by deficits in three areas: language development, social skills, and behavior. The definition doesn't recognize any physical aspects, but NAA parents often say their children also suffer from symptoms of poisoning—stomach ailments, rashes, and immune dysfunction. As autism diagnoses have skyrocketed to one in 150 children, with boys four times more likely to be affected, the issue has polarized parents of

children with autism, roughly half of whom believe routine vaccines played a role in their child's disorder—and around three-quarters of whom are trying alternative treatments—and scientists, who mostly deny any vaccine connection.

Inside the NAA conference rooms, practitioners of DAN! (Defeat Autism Now!) describe how their detox protocol can aid in "recovery" from autism. "My diarrhea may not be the same as your diarrhea, which may not be the same as your pediatrician's diarrhea," intones one presenter on gastrointestinal issues as he clicks through slide after slide of dirty diapers. The parents nod and take notes, the fierceness of their attention, their palpable desperation, almost harder to watch than the slide show. The treatments, such as chelation (in which chemicals are typically given transdermally or orally to draw out heavy metals), special diets, and supplements, are untested and, critics say, possibly dangerous: A boy died from a botched chelation procedure for autism in 2005, and a recent study showed that boys on the restrictive diets may suffer from weakened bones. Parents, however, counter that the regimens reduce their children's pain, improve their cognition, and besides, the medical establishment doesn't have anything better to offer.

The group is abuzz about Jenny McCarthy's scheduled appearance. The actress came out with a best-selling book last fall, *Louder Than Words*, documenting her son's descent into autism and reemergence through a combination of traditional educational therapies and DAN! She has blamed vaccines for his illness. This,

Courtesy of Autism Speaks



and her way of turning her grief into “We’re all in this together” laugh lines, has made her an idol at the NAA. “I love her! *I love her!*” gushes one mother. “If she ran for president, I’d vote for her!” I spot more than one woman sporting the same razor-sharp bob as McCarthy does. When she finally arrives, camera crew in tow, she has the crowd yell into her cell phone as she calls the Centers for Disease Control with the cameras rolling, Michael Moore-style. The audience goes wild.

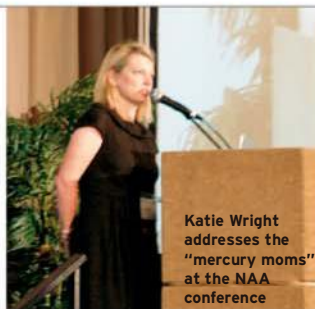
But there is another blond garnering attention at the conference. This one is more low-key, petite and conservatively dressed in a brown wool dress. No cameras trail her, but women approach all day long, to thank her, to ask questions, to shyly say they saw her on *Oprah*. She is Katie Wright, daughter of Suzanne and Bob Wright, vice chairman and executive officer of General Electric and former CEO of NBC. In a massive act of grandparental devotion, the Wrights founded Autism Speaks (AS), now the nation’s largest autism nonprofit, in 2005, after Katie’s son Christian was diagnosed with the disorder. But Katie’s presence at the conference is the result of a rift between herself and AS, one that exposed the long-simmering resentments in the autism community and threatened to tear apart the Wright family along with it.

**Katie’s son Christian was born on** August 31, 2001, a few weeks early via cesarean section, but apparently healthy in every way. Pictures and videos show an unusually beautiful blond-haired, blue-eyed baby, smiling at the camera and interacting with family members. He hit all his milestones right on time, walking, talking, and speaking in full sentences with a 1,000-word vocabulary by age two: “I want to drive Daddy’s car!” and “I want a cookie!”

The only dark note in Christian’s textbook development, Katie says, was his extreme reactions to vaccination (fevers of 104, diarrhea, rashes) and frequent, even for a baby, illnesses. There were multiple ear and eye infections, ongoing eczema, strep, pneumonia, and a staph infection so severe that he required hospitalization. Christian’s sickness began to intensify when he was two, and his temperament shifted from sunny to fearful. His sleep fell apart, he lost language skills, dark circles appeared under his eyes, and he screamed all the time as if in agonizing pain. Katie and her husband, Andreas Hildebrand, a banker, took Christian to doctor after doctor trying to find the cause of his deterioration. “We were so hoping for a brain tumor,” says Katie—anything treatable.

When a developmental pediatrician finally came up with a diagnosis in February 2004, however, it was nothing that could be operated on or excised: Christian had autism. “I threw up,” Katie says, upon hearing that word. She cried for weeks and lost 30 pounds. Christian’s younger brother, Mattias, was an infant at the time and, in her frenzy, “I completely missed his babyhood,” Katie says. By age three, Christian had lost his potty training and barely spoke at all. “I would hold him and beg him, ‘I just want to hear your voice. Let me hear your voice,’” Katie says, in a surprisingly matter-of-fact tone. She’s careful not to play the hysterical autism mother, but her thin skin gives her emotions away, blotching up when she talks about her son’s condition.

Now six years old, Christian has regained his health and some speech with special schooling, regular chelation, a restricted diet, and a series of immune treatments called IVIG. Meeting him at his private school in Manhattan, he’s still a strikingly handsome boy, looking like a mini J.Crew model in a gingham checked button-down and jeans. Though he has difficulty saying hello to a stranger,



he is affectionate with Katie, alternately clinging to her side and bouncing up and down to calm his nerves (repetitive behaviors like this, called “stims,” are common in autism). Katie loves Christian as he is now and quit her job at a rape crisis center to manage his care, but she also longs for the son who once kept up a chirping patter with her all day. “I miss that so much,” she says. “I have this grieving that never stops. This pain, it’s unbearable.”

**An autism diagnosis is often** just the beginning of parents’ pain. They must fight with health insurers to get coverage and with their school districts over educational options. Therapists qualified to perform applied behavior analysis (ABA), one of the few methods shown to improve skills and cognition for children with autism, are scarce, and private schooling can be exorbitantly expensive (the tuition at Christian’s school is \$100,000 a year). Many parents end up doing ABA themselves, which studies show leads to off-the-charts stress levels, since the method, involving repeating small tasks over and over, must be done for at least 20 hours a week to be effective. It goes without saying that alternative therapies aren’t paid for by insurance. Crushing debt and bankruptcy are common.

Everything from meals to bedtime can be an ordeal. Autistic children may have extremely disrupted sleep habits, and sleep deprivation is rampant. Family vacations, restaurants, and playdates may be out of the question because the child’s behavior is too unpredictable. The isolation can be intense. “After my twins were

Katie and her husband took Christian to doctor after doctor. “We were so hoping for a brain tumor,” says Katie—anything treatable.

diagnosed, people just stopped calling,” says Michele Iallonardi, a Long Island mom I met at the NAA conference who also has an older son on the spectrum. She quit her job as an elementary school teacher to care for her three kids and has few “nonautism” friends, she says. “I could never go back to work. I’d be like, ‘Your kid can’t add? Well, he talks and has friends, so I can’t get worked up about it.’”

While official divorce statistics are hard to come by (urban legend has it that 80 percent of marriages end after an autism diagnosis), relationships are heavily strained. “I had a little episode a couple of weeks ago where I found some videos of my daughter before she became autistic,” says Wendy Fournier, president of the NAA. “I could hear myself behind the camera talking and listening to this person I used to be—it devastated me. All I could think of was, Oh, my God, where is she? Where is that person I used to be? I am completely different now.” She apologized to her husband for her transformation. “I said, ‘I’m so sorry, because I know that you can see all of this anger that I have but you’re not seeing this sadness that’s underneath. I’m really falling apart.’”

**Bob and Suzanne Wright were heartbroken** watching their daughter and her family face these issues and then appalled when



they found out how few research dollars autism was getting, despite being more common than pediatric diabetes, AIDS, and cancer combined. "We were just sitting there like we have for the last 41 years of marriage, talking," Suzanne says of their decision to start AS. The Wrights are one of those long-time couples who look alike, with strawberry blond hair and similar builds. You can picture them brainstorming, a matched set. "We came upon it together," she says. Using an initial donation of \$25 million from Home Depot cofounder Bernie Marcus, they set about employing their considerable experience in charity work (Suzanne) and mergers and acquisition (Bob) toward doing what many insiders considered impossible: uniting the factious autism community toward one goal, finding the causes of, and treatments and cure for, autism. They launched the charity on the *Today* show in February 2005. "Katie and Andreas were very brave to let us go public" about Christian, Suzanne says. "They just said, 'Let's get this in the national vocabulary.'"

Over the past three years, AS has brought into the fold organizations of varying philosophical persuasions. Bob has used his clout in the entertainment industry to persuade luminaries such as Jerry Seinfeld, Toni Braxton, and Bill Cosby to perform at fund-raisers. They've gotten the ad council to run more than \$31 million in autism public service announcements thus far. Along with other groups, they successfully lobbied Congress to sign and fund the nearly billion-dollar Combating Autism Act. Suzanne joined forces with the Sheika of Qatar to convince the United Nations to name April 2, 2008, the first World Autism Awareness Day. This year, their operating budget has climbed to \$73 million.

As AS was evolving, however, so were Katie's views on autism. When Christian was first diagnosed, she was dismissive of the vaccine hypothesis. Her husband was more swayed, and they got in one of the worst fights they'd ever had because Andreas wanted to suspend vaccinating Mattias and Katie didn't. But as she became increasingly frustrated by Christian's lack of progress and continuing medical problems, she grew more open to alternative therapies. Somewhere along the way, she converted.

Last April, Katie became the darling of the NAA crowd when, on *Oprah*, she vehemently countered a pediatrician who said the vaccine question had been closed. Then she came out on autism websites about her reliance on DAN! treatments for her son. Subscribers to the vaccine theory who felt the mainstream wrote them off as tin-foil hat-wearing crazies were elated: Here was a prominent member of the autism world validating their viewpoint.

Next, Katie gave an interview to journalist David Kirby, author of *Evidence of Harm*, a best-seller about the vaccine-autism controversy. In the interview, Katie expressed frustration with the research AS had been funding. She said that the grants were dictated too much by one group they had merged with, the National Alliance for Autism Research (NAAR), which was resistant to environmental research. "The NAAR people were pioneers in their time, but I really think it's time to start thinking about autism in a wider angle," she said. "A lot of these people, their children are adults now...it's time to step aside and let the parents of younger children



McCarthy reignited the vaccine-autism debate with her 2007 book on her son, Evan



The Wrights promote Autism Speaks' controversial philanthropic efforts

have a chance of doing something different with this money."

Parents and scientists who had been involved with NAAR for over a decade didn't take kindly to being called out as old fogies by the new boss's daughter and complained vociferously. The directors of AS, Katie says, "panicked," and quickly released a statement from Bob and Suzanne reading, in part: "Katie Wright is not a spokesperson for Autism Speaks. Many of Katie's personal views differ from ours and do not represent or reflect the ongoing mission of Autism Speaks. Her appearance with David Kirby was done without the knowledge or consent of Autism Speaks." Katie says it was written by the organization's communications chief. When people told her parents how harsh it sounded, they inserted the sentence, "She is our daughter and we love her very much."

The statement, of course, enraged the faction that had recently taken Katie in. "There were a lot of calls," Katie says. "Really scary, angry ones too, which my parents didn't deserve." Katie joined the boards of the NAA and SafeMinds (Sensible Action for Ending Mercury-Induced Neurological Disorders) and resigned from her position at AS. "I just felt like it was pointless to stay after such a public berating of my point of view and distancing from me," she says. "Clearly my input is not going to be utilized in any way." And

then, the day after Father's Day, *The New York Times* published a front-page piece about the whole squabble, titled AUTISM DEBATE STRAINS A FAMILY AND ITS CHARITY. By this point Katie and her parents were no longer on speaking terms. It seemed autism's first family—the ones who were going to unite the community—were now as discouragingly divided as everyone else.

The autism factions gossip about one another like high school cliques. One scientist suggested to me that the reason parents couldn't let go of the vaccine hypothesis was that they suffered from "BAP," or the "broader autistic phenotype." In other words: They have characteristics similar to autism, such as being prone to obsessive behavior and poor communication skills. And a group of autism mothers at the NAA conference was spreading a rumor about a CDC official, saying she spent her lonely hours dressing up her cats and photographing them. Both sides accuse each other of ill will, hidden agendas, and financial conflicts of interest. Talking to the players one-on-one, though, nobody emerges as an obvious villain. Rather, they all seem focused on one rather noble cause: helping children. Everyone just has a different idea of how to do that.

The debate is now coming to a head due to increased public attention from the awareness campaign of AS, celebrity stories like Jenny McCarthy's, and the government's proceeding with a series of autism test cases in "vaccine court," the judicial board that was set up by the government in 1988 to prevent vaccine manufacturers from ceasing production over fear of litigation. Suddenly even presidential candidates feel compelled to take a stand. Senator John McCain threw in his lot with the mercury moms at a campaign stop in late February, saying, "It's indisputable that [autism] is on the rise among children. The question is what's causing it. ... There's strong evidence that indicates that it's got to do with a preservative in vaccines." Both Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama have issued statements support-



ing families dealing with autism, Clinton specifically pledging to demand about \$700 million a year in funding.

However, the infighting has been raging for quite some time. It started in England in 1998, when now-discredited research linked the Measles-Mumps-Rubella shot ("MMR") to autism. In the States, controversy began in 1999, when the American Academy of Pediatrics recommended thimerosal, a preservative containing 50 percent ethyl mercury, be reduced or eliminated from childhood vaccines (since 2001, it's been used only in certain flu shots). The AAP didn't have any evidence thimerosal was harmful, but as the number of childhood immunizations multiplied, they worried about the collective thimerosal dose children were receiving. Some parents, confused about why you'd remove something harmless, wondered if the preservative had caused the autism increase. Since then, a number of large-scale epidemiological studies have failed to find a connection, and clinical data has shown that ethyl mercury appears to be less dangerous than the methylmercury found in fish and the atmosphere. A January report on autism in California showed that diagnoses continued to climb even after thimerosal was withdrawn.

Still, mainstream science has yet to satisfyingly explain the recent uptick in cases. Theories have run the gamut: environmental toxins, older parents, C-sections, fertility treatments, and the "Silicon Valley effect" (where socially awkward nerds are more likely to mate with other socially awkward nerds, tipping their offspring's genes toward autism). Some scientists even conjecture that the autism epidemic is overblown, that the number of afflicted children is the same as it always was, but they're just more likely to be diagnosed these days thanks to increasing awareness and a change in the diagnostic criteria in the mid-'90s. In particular, a few clinicians suggest that we might be unnecessarily pathologizing the quirky but high-functioning kid who never would have been labeled autistic in the past. But the scientists' point has been difficult to prove, since autism rates were not documented carefully until recently.

Further complicating matters is the relative elasticity of the spectrum, which includes both mildly affected children who may one day matriculate at Harvard (often given a diagnosis of Asperger's Syndrome) and those with full-blown autism, some of whom will never speak a word or live unassisted. The third diagnosis on the spectrum, PDD-NOS (pervasive developmental disorder-not otherwise specified), is a mixed bag of symptoms that are linked to classic autism and Asperger's but don't qualify as either. Some children miss milestones from birth; others develop normally or almost normally and then regress, usually between 12 and 24 months of age (since defining "regression" is also subjective, incidence estimates are all over the map—from 15 to 50 percent of cases).

The science is no less complex. Researchers now agree that the genetics of autism probably more resembles cancer than, for example, Down syndrome, which is caused by a single genetic defect. In autism, as in cancer, a child can possess a whole complement of susceptibility genes either by inheritance or through mutation. Then it might take an environmental trigger to turn the genes on or off and begin the developmental cascade that leads to the condition. Studies on identical twins show that if one twin is on the spectrum, there is a 70 to 90 percent chance the other twin will be as well. However, if the disorder were only genetic, there would be nearly 100 percent concordance. "The average estimate is that at least 70 percent [of autism] is due to a genetic contribution and the rest from the environment," says Daniel Geschwind, MD, PhD, director of the UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment. "But, in any individual, the gene could be the entire cause, and in another it could

be 100 percent environmental." The complaint of Katie and like-minded parents is that too much money and time is spent on genetic research. However, it has become the low-hanging fruit in autism research, thanks to new technology. "We can almost look at the whole genome in one shot," Geschwind says. "[It's] becoming easier and less expensive."

Environmental research, on the other hand, remains daunting. Looking at chemical contaminants alone presents an almost impossible challenge, with over 80,000 in use and very few of them tested in humans for developmental toxicity, says S. Jill James, PhD, director of the Autism Metabolic Genomics Laboratory at the Arkansas Children's Hospital Research Institute. Plus, she points out, you can't just evaluate them one at a time. "You can come up with a sub-toxic dose of mercury or lead or arsenic or cadmium and say, 'Oh, well, we're safe,'" she says. "But what if you add lead, arsenic, mercury, and cadmium all together?" And James' work has suggested that some children on the spectrum may be less able to eliminate toxins. So you also would have to look at effects in not only healthy children but those who might be more susceptible. Studies are observing exposures and outcomes in the siblings of kids with autism, who have up to 15 times the risk of autism as the general population, but results won't be in for years.

The upshot is that nobody knows for sure what's going on, and in the absence of hard data, theories have morphed into belief

Some clinicians suggest we might be pathologizing the quirky but high-functioning kid who never would've been labeled in the past.



systems. "It's the only disorder I can think of with this incredible passion, where you have to be careful what you say about etiology or treatment," says Gary Goldstein, MD, president and CEO of Baltimore's Kennedy Krieger Institute and the chair of AS's Scientific Affairs Committee. "It's very hard to convince everybody. If I say 'I don't believe in your religion because it doesn't make much sense scientifically,' you're not going to accept that. You're going to get pretty angry."

When you consider the crushed emotional state of many autism parents and the fact that science has in the past been cataclysmically wrong about the causes of autism (until not so long ago autism was blamed on "refrigerator moms," who supposedly caused their children to shut down by denying them love), it's easy to understand their "you're either with us or against us" mentality.

When she spoke at the NAA conference, even Katie got heckled after admitting she was proceeding with a slower, attenuated vaccine schedule for Mattias (who is now four and not on the spectrum). The woman next to me murmured to her friend, "She really shouldn't say that." My first thought was that my neighbor was worried Katie was making an unwise public health pronouncement since, after all, vaccines are life-savers. But then people started shouting from the crowd, "Don't do it! Don't vaccinate!" and I realized what the woman really meant: Katie shouldn't tell people it's okay to even judiciously vaccinate a healthy child.

If you talk to the actual scientists on both sides of the divide, (CONTINUED ON page 322)





Bar Refaeli: Project Sunshine volunteer

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INSIDE

SAUCY SAUCE, DEEP-GREEN DECORATING, STARGAZING...SIGH, AND MORE... EDITED BY MIRANDA PURVES

# ELLE LIVING

## BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Snout-to-tail machismo, status steaks, heartless agrobusiness... **meat is a man's world.** But at Portland's Beast, chef **Naomi Pomeroy** has found an elegant, dare we say feminine, solution to the ethical eater's big dilemma: **how to eat pig** without being one.

**Kindest cut:** Pomeroy at her pal Pennie Lane's Rock and Roll ranch on Sauvie Island, a farming and wildlife preserve area near Portland, Oregon (Lane inspired Kate Hudson's character in *Almost Famous*.)

Photographed by Alicia J. Rose





Bloodred: The tiny resto at 5425 NE 30th Ave.



Chard times: Pomeroy sneaks in the veggies.



Nature's table: Pomeroy and her sous-chef, Mika Paredes, at Lane's ranch



Bowled over: Pomeroy with her duck and veal broth French onion soup

Vegetables are interesting but lack a sense of purpose when unaccompanied by a good piece of meat." It's a ballsy Fran Lebowitz statement, and all the more so when scrawled on the back wall of a restaurant just when America is doing some serious soul-searching about meat consumption. Chef Naomi Pomeroy's packed restaurant, *Beast*, is tucked into a tiny storefront in the up-and-coming NE Alberta district in already-there Portland, Oregon. The name, she explains, is a play on *bistro*, a nod to the spot's French underpinnings, but also, "it lets people know this is definitely not the place to bring your vegan friend."

While I was writing this story, a horrifying video of inhumane treatment at a Hallmark/Westland processing plant sparked the USDA to recall 143 million pounds of the company's meat. This was three weeks after best-selling cookbook author Mark Bittman made a plea, massively e-mailed, on the op-ed pages of *The New York Times* that we stop meat-guzz-

ling to slow down global warming. Americans eat an average of 200 pounds of meat per person per year (including poultry and fish) and raise most of our livestock unsustainably, filling the soil with petrochemical-based fertilizers to grow corn for industrially farmed animals whose manure seeps into our water system and emits greenhouse gasses.

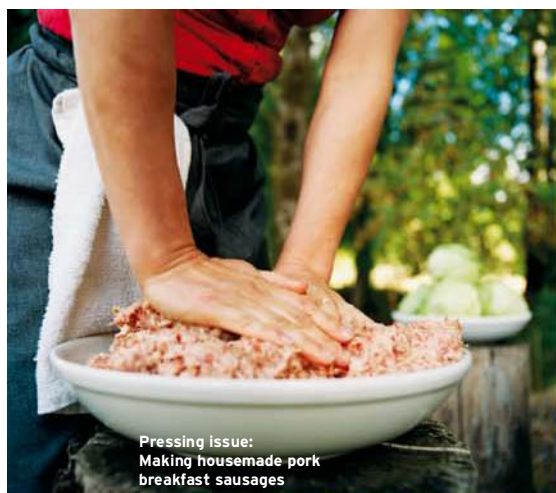
Meanwhile, meat gluttony is having its moment—perma-adolescent Americans giving the finger to communal responsibility, not unlike the way in the late '90s SUVs ascended in tandem with our growing awareness of the dangers of oil dependency. The new meat fetish is multipronged: Seven steak houses have opened in New York over the past year, and macho nose-to-toes eating (think handmade headcheese, a mosaic

of tongue and ears suspended in gelatin) has captivated rarefied food circles and food TV.

Pomeroy is definitely part of the eat-the-whole-animal clique. But while the svelte chef, 33, with sparkling blue eyes and up-done raven hair, boldly tackles the lesser parts—chicken livers, pork shoulder, ox-tail—she swaps the dick-swinging for an understated, decidedly feminine sensibility. She's serving the whole animal not to prove her range and guts (excuse the pun) but to create an air of preindustrial agriculture respect. It takes Pomeroy and her hipster sous-chef, Mika Paredes, a solid 40 minutes to plate the house charcuterie. During my dinner there, I watch them hover over the dishes as if they were creating Tibetan sand paintings instead of slicing salami, but I un-

Restaurant interior and exterior: photographed by Basil Childers; remaining images: Alicia J. Rose





Pressing issue:  
Making housemade pork  
breakfast sausages



Hot birds:  
Roasted turkeys



Assembly line: Paredes  
prepares the charcuterie.

derstand what has taken them so long once the dish arrives. Rather than rustic and hulking, as these things tend to be, Pomeroy's meats are arranged like precious jewels: a tiny foie gras bonbon topped with apple gelée, a dainty slice of pork terrine, a few silvers of salami, a nibble of steak tartare crowned with a quail's egg, a dab of chicken-liver pâté, all offset by delicate pickled vegetables and a glistening dollop of crunchy celery salad.

And replacing Pebbles and Bamm-Bamm-style steaming slabs are modest three- to four-ounce servings of seared duck breast or roasted leg of lamb. "Beast is about elegance, not gluttony," Pomeroy emphasizes. "I wanted to show that you can enjoy meat *and* that it can be sustainable—this demands scaling back portions."

Like many meat devotees, Pomeroy started out as a vegetarian. Her first cooking gig was as a professional chef for a meat lover. "I had to eat it because I had to cook it." Meat had become a significant part of her repertoire by 2001, when she ran an invitation-only underground supper club with then-boyfriend and now ex-husband Michael Hebbroy, an endeavor that turned them into food-world darlings and blossomed into Portland's Ripe empire, a trio of hit restaurants—Family Supper, clarklewis, and Gotham Bldg. Tavern—that crashed and burned, along with their marriage, in 2006.

Seven months into Beast, her home-

made blood sausage has inspired a carnivorous cult, and Pomeroy is once again the dining-scene queen. The restaurant is a natural evolution of Pomeroy's communal approach to eating. She runs an old-fashioned dinner party, seating 24 at two long tables and serving guests the same food at the same time. The answer to pesky requests such as "Can you make the chicory and house-made lardon salad without the bacon?" is a firm but polite *no*.

You can rest assured the pig was ethically raised. Pomeroy buys most of her vegetables straight from farmers and is working on doing the same for *fleisch*. "Direct sourcing is harder with meat, partly because the infrastructure isn't there, but also because of USDA processing laws," she explains. For now she's building relationships with meat vendors at farmers' markets and will soon procure her pork from Tails & Trotters, a free-range hazelnut-fattened-pig farm owned by former clarklewis chef/partner Morgan Brownlow.

Given Pomeroy's awareness about the myriad ethical pitfalls of consuming animals, what's up with the graffiti knocking vegetables? "It's just to be provocative and evocative; I actually don't believe it," she admits. "I love meat, but I am perfectly happy eating a giant bowl of vegetables." Exactly what Americans with a beautiful future in mind will have to eat all week so they can go whole hoglet at Beast on Friday night.—JULIET GLASS

## Whither Meat?

Meat's status has moved from pleasant protein source to a full-tilt foodie fetish. We flesh out the strange animal that's meat eating now.

**Girlish portions:** STK (NYC and L.A.) tries to wrangle in women with the slogan "Not your daddy's steak house," stilettos-crushing-raw-meat iconography, and the menu's "petite cut": a dainty hand-size six to eight ounces.

**Obscene portions:** Mario Batali thumbs small plates with 20-ounce veal and heritage pork chops (both sustainably sourced) at Carnevino (Las Vegas); and wrap your mind around the 8.6-pound porterhouse at the BRAND Steakhouse (Las Vegas). Its saving grace is that it serves six...but wait, that's still over a pound per person.

**Pedigreed portions:** When patrons order at David Burke Primehouse (Chicago), their beef combines the trends of exotic specialty salts, dry aging, and pedigree. Burke's steaks age in a Himalayan pink-rock-salt-lined room and all hail from cows

sired by his superstar Angus stud, Prime.

### Pay-per-ounce:

No, we're not talking about high-grade weed; Japanese Kobe beef from Wagyu cows (who are plied with sake, wine, and daily massages) is sold by the \$26 to \$30/ounce at places like Craftsteak (NYC, Las Vegas) and BLT Steak (NYC; San Juan; Dallas; L.A.; White Plains, NY).

### Awful offal:

Only the brave of human heart should try the beef-heart tartare with horseradish at Incanto (San Francisco) or veal-brain ravioli at Komi (Washington, DC).

### And for dessert:

Chefs like Gabriel Rucker (Le Pigeon, Portland, OR) jig on the collapse of the sweet/savory divide with bacon-studded maple cornmeal cake, foie gras pumpkin pie, and foie gras profiteroles.—J.G.



## MOREL SAUCE

Pomeroy pairs this velvety spring sauce with venison stew, but you can use it to dress up roasted fish or even plain-Jane egg noodles.

### INGREDIENTS

3 tbsp butter  
2 minced shallots  
Salt and pepper to taste  
1½ lb morels, other wild mushrooms, or even button mushrooms, sliced  
½ cup dry sherry or white wine  
¼ cup thinly sliced wild ramps or scallions  
2 cups crème fraîche or sour cream

*Yields 4 cups. Serves 6 to 8*

Melt butter in sauté pan over medium heat and sauté shallots with salt and pepper until translucent. Add mushrooms, turn up heat to medium high, and season with salt and pepper. Add sherry or wine, lower the heat to medium, and reduce significantly for about 10 minutes while making sure the pan does not dry out. Add ramps or green onions and sauté briefly. Gently fold in crème fraîche. If you're using buttons, enrich the flavor with a dash of truffle salt.



# Sipping Stars

Melt back into the universe at this remote biodynamic winery

If you plan to join the trek to Patagonia before the glaciers are gone, end your trip with a stay in Chile's idyllic central valley at Alexandra Marnier-Lapostolle's Clos Apalta Winery and Casa Lapostolle Guest Houses. The gracious and inspired Marnier-Lapostolle adventured away from her famous family (owners of Grand Marnier and Château de Sancerre) to start this biodynamic winery, which uses gravity rather than pumps to move the grapes from vine to vat, and horses rather than tractors to till. Stay in one of four houses nestled in the preserved woods, eat fresh salmon, horseback ride, or just absorb the quality of light and night. "The stars," says Marnier-Lapostolle, "are incredible." With Amy Trubek's *The Taste of Place: A Cultural Journey into Terroir* and *The Battle for Wine and Love, or How I Saved the World from Parkerization* by Alice Feiring, out this month, Casa Lapostolle will elucidate all the fuss over *terroir* (local flavor in wine) and remind you that at least the Milky Way is still there. —M.P.

My head is swimming: The pool at the magical main house (For information, visit [closapalta.cl](http://closapalta.cl))

For your viewing pleasure: A bathtub in the Casita Petit Verdot

Start at the top: The six-story gravity-led winery

**WHERE I HIDE** On a 12-foot Carolina Skiff in the Potomac. I can see the Capitol, but aside from the jets, it's just me, the eagles, ospreys, herons, and a couple of NASCAR fishermen. In winter, I go to White Grass ([whitegrass.com](http://whitegrass.com)) in West Virginia, the East's backcountry ski hub (meaning no chairlifts). It's going to the source: Why do I do this work? Wild areas and spirited people. Sweet stuff. —John Passacantando, Greenpeace executive director

Clos Apalta Winery and Casa Lapostolle; courtesy of Casa Lapostolle Guest Houses; Passacantando: courtesy of subject; Venice Beach Eco-cottages: © 2007 Eric Staudenmaier

## FUN WITH A REPURPOSE

We laud large hotel chains' recent greenlining attempts (go Fairmont, with your smart composting and water conservation), but for a truly tiny (and pretty) footprint, we love the Venice Beach Eco-Cottages.

The three former crack houses turned solar-powered retreats represent the three r's at their best. Each one-bedroom cottage (Papa Hemingway, Aunt

Zoe's Place, and Le Bébé) is filled with married co-owners Cynthia Foster and Karel Samsom's flea market finds: Pots and pans dangle from bugle stems, crystal door-knobs act as finials, and wine corks line the bathroom floors. Kelly LaPlante of Organic Interior Design, whose book *Ecologique* (Organic Interior Design) hits

this July, created Le Bébé's cozy, surrealist 1930s look. She particularly cherishes the retired birdcage she turned into a chair, using antique chair legs and a lazy Susan. "I can actually fit my whole body in there and curl up," LaPlante says. "It's surprisingly comfortable." Summer rates are \$240 to \$260 per night, with a two-night minimum. —JULIE VADNAL





NEW

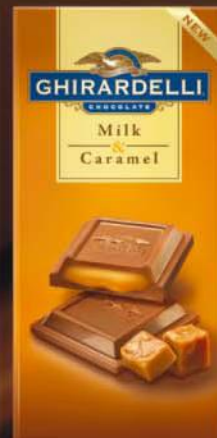
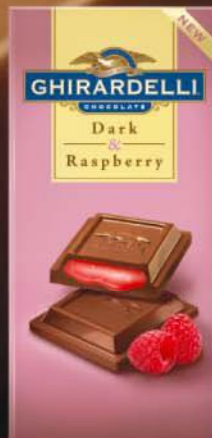
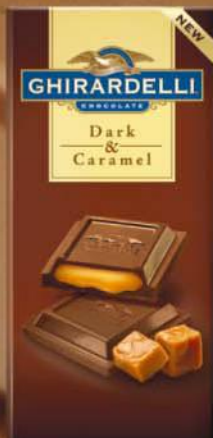
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# EVERGREEN

Rejoice! Our four all-time favorite decorating faithfuls just happen to be low-impact standard-bearers

## ST. CHARLES CABINETRY

These all-metal cabinets, born in 1935 in a family-run factory in St. Charles, IL, became an American classic used by Frank Lloyd Wright and Mies van der Rohe (at Farnsworth House, below). Now, Viking Range has revived them in their original USA-made form, with updated engineering, 70 percent recycled steel, and 23 luscious powder-coated hues that don't off-gas. [stcharlescabinets.com](http://stcharlescabinets.com)

## EUROPEAN HEMP-GRAIN SACKS

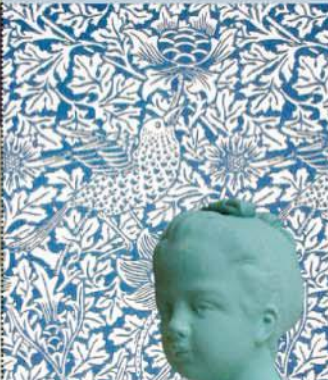
When we need a new laundry bag, shower curtains, pillows, tea towels, even upholstery, we turn to this nearly indestructible hemp fabric. Women wove it by the fire inch by inch before plastic made the sacks obsolete. Although they aren't a renewable resource, there are thousands around in attics and barns, and savvy dealers are still saving them from the trash heap. Our source: [textiletrunk.com](http://textiletrunk.com)

## FARROW & BALL PAINT

Pelt, Charleston Gray, Pavilion Blue. If the announcement of new Farrow & Ball paint colors (shown in stripes, below) makes your heart quicken as much as the latest Prada, good news: It's a healthy addiction. Just as we suspected, the color-rich British paints have zero volatile organic compounds in the matte Estate Emulsion finish. But with a new SoHo, NYC, store, our secret for luxe walls is out. [farrow-ball.com](http://farrow-ball.com)

## WILLIAM MORRIS WALLPAPER

Charles Rupert's wallpapers have always valued a planet-friendly process that never sacrifices the styles William Morris designed in 1882. As opposed to most wallpapers, made with formaldehyde and vinyl (toxic and fume), many of Rupert's are 100 percent paper, with water-based inks and coatings (as in this Bird & Anemone pattern, below). Put it up with homemade wheat-paste glue—we dare you! [charlesrupert.com](http://charlesrupert.com)



**TENDER TCHOTCHKES ARE GO!** Don't throw away those sample wall-paint pot dregs. Take a tip from an artist we know: She snaps up yard sale geegaws of the *Are They Creepy? Are They Cool?* variety and gives them an unexpected monochrome face-lift with leftover paint, creating oddly lovely objets. The bunny is in F&B Dead Salmon, the boy is generic hardware-store enamel, and the girl is F&B Arsenic.



Good times: An original Leisurama house in Montauk, NY. There are 187 left; now they sell for around \$500,000.

## ART-DIRECTED WORLD



With all this talk about lifestyle, you would think our generation invented it. *Leisurama Now: The Beach House for Everyone* (Princeton Architectural Press), by NYC graphic design who's-who Paul Sahre, reminds us that our version is a pale imitation of the post-World War II originals. Leisurama was a revolutionary new housing development in the early 1960s that sold weekend beach getaways with state-of-the-art GE kitchens, mostly in Montauk, Long Island, to working Joes (\$490 down and \$73 a month) through Macy's. The extra-

scintillating part: The houses came fully decorated, from towels to toothbrushes, in, from our nostalgic vantage, the cutest midcentury style. Not only does Sahre's assiduous homage gather more fuel to fight tear-down culture, it also makes us rethink colored Formica.—M.P.



## Find

Sweeten a naked corner with a chinoiserie 1930s paper parasol... \$85, [bellaumbrella.com](http://bellaumbrella.com)



## REfined

...But take this functional, biodegradable plastic-and-bamboo invention out for a walk in the rain. \$28–\$38, [thebrelli.com](http://thebrelli.com)



Bedroom hijinks: The original wood paneling, smart chairs, and Murphy bed



Top drawer: The stainless steel cutlery and plastic place mats that came with the houses



On paper: Ads for the development

**Leisurama**  
ON DISPLAY AT: Macy's Herald Square • Macy's

Top row, left to right: Jon Miller © HedrichBlessing 2005; sack; Wendy Lewis; paint can and statues: courtesy of Farrow & Ball; wallpaper: courtesy of William Morris; top umbrella: courtesy of Bella Umbrella; bottom umbrella: courtesy of the Brelli; all Leisurama images: courtesy of Leisurama





*Why use fake flavors and additives  
when you can use lemongrass and coconut?*





# ELLE'S 2008 GREEN AWARDS

They make the truths convenient, the planes fly on coconut oil, the rock 'n' roll lifestyle tread lightly. Introducing this year's eco-illuminators—the people, products, and concepts that put their energy, and our planet, in the right place. By Katie Arnold

1

MAN OF THE HOUSE

**BRAD**

What's Brad Pitt doing in the Lower Ninth Ward? Helping to rebuild the hurricane-devastated community, sustainably. Late last year, Pitt launched the Make It Right project to develop green, affordable, safe homes for 150 families displaced by Katrina; the first house is expected to be finished by summer's end. Designed by visionary architects, some from as far afield as Ghana and Japan, the homes are modern pods set on stilts to promote natural cooling and combat flood damage. They're outfitted with solar panels and front porches that encourage that Southern tradition: visitin'. So far, Pitt

has ponied up \$5 million to offset the cost to residents, who are eligible for need-based financing, and more than half of the 150 homes have been sponsored by donors, who include Donna Karan, Lorne Michaels, Warren Buffett, and Don Henley. You, your friends, and *their* friends can pool resources to sponsor one too, at [Makeitrightnola.org](http://Makeitrightnola.org).



2

THE YOUTHQUAKE

**E.A.C.**

Energy Action Coalition, a network of more than 40 youth organizations united against climate change, is proof that twentysomethings are plugged into more than their iPods and getting out to do some good. At Power Shift 2007, E.A.C. hosted the first national youth summit on climate change: 5,500 student leaders converged on Washington, DC, to lobby Congress to raise fuel efficiency standards, pass a moratorium on coal, and create 5 million green jobs. Names to watch in the years ahead: **Shadia Fayne Wood** (above) and **Kari Fulton**, who preach environmental justice to students of color around the country, and digital organizer and impassioned surfer **Arthur Coulston**, who tapped into the Web's social networking potential to create a massive e-vite for thousands of students to join the movement. [itsgettinghotinhere.org](http://itsgettinghotinhere.org)



Pitt: Mark Mainz/Getty Images; E.A.C.: courtesy E.A.C.





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# ELLE READER GREEN AWARDS



4

## URBAN OUTFITTERS

COLIN BEAVAN & MICHELLE CONLIN

Are they mad eco geniuses, or just mad? Either way, we salute them for proving that they could forgo electricity, create no trash, and boycott all modes of carbon-fueled transportation for one year while living in a Manhattan high-rise with a kid.

The point? To become experts in low-impact living. They learned to buy in bulk, stashing everything from flour to almonds in their cloth bags, and to convert their bikes into elaborate grocery-carrying rickshaws. "The whole project had an element of spirituality to it," says Beavan, who offers dos and don'ts for living consciously at Noimpactman.com. "Once we got away from stuff and moved toward people, we began making real connections. In a lot of ways, our quality of life actually improved." And, they got a book and movie deal out of it.

3

## BAG LADY

REBECCA HOSKING

Last year on a trip to the Pacific Ocean, wildlife filmmaker Rebecca Hosking was floored by the tons of plastic ("grocery sacks, cigarette lighters, inhalers, toothbrushes...") she saw clogging an area the size of America. So when she got home to her village in England, Modbury (pop. 1,500), she distributed canvas totes to every resident, launched Plasticbag free.com, and persuaded the shops to ban plastic bags. Soon, 120 UK cities, including London, followed suit. The idea's catching on: By June 1 in China, you will no longer be able to get a free plastic shopping bag (which has a lifespan of 400 to 1,000 years); later this year Australia will begin phasing them out; and on April 22, Earth Day, Whole Foods Markets will stop offering plastic bags forever. "Our message is: Don't wait for the government to act," Hosking says.

5

## GREEN GENES

PAUL & STELLA MCCARTNEY



Stella McCartney is the Al Gore of eco fashion—an avowed vegetarian whose designs represent her values and who just debuted a line of organic beauty products, Care. She's a chip off the old block—Sir Paul—whose reduce-the-meat-in-your-diet message has finally gone mainstream. A 2007 Japanese study found that every kilogram of beef you eat produces more greenhouse gas emissions and other pollution than if you drove three hours and left a 100-watt lightbulb burning at home for nearly 20 days. "If everyone went veggie, we'd need only about half the amount of land," Paul has said. "We could have real forests and wild places again." For that, and for making Stella, he gets a Green Award too.



6

## CONVENTION WISDOM

DENVER

"Low-impact political convention" sounds like an oxymoron, but Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper is determined to prove otherwise. When 35,000 visitors descend on the Mile High City this August, they'll be in for the greenest Democratic National Convention in history.

Number of bicycles donated for use by delegates and visitors: 1,000

Percentage of municipal diesel vehicles converted to biodiesel: 100

Size of solar plant to be built at Denver International Airport: 2 megawatts

Percentage of energy reduction per passenger at DIA: 10.5

Number of low-flow toilets and urinals installed in official convention venues: 312

Gallons of water saved: 1,600,000

Number of trees planted within the Denver region since April 2007: 68,397

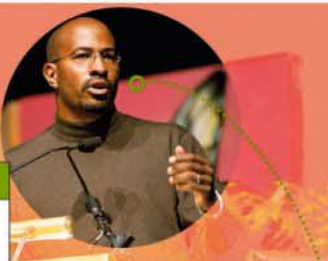
Projected number of trees to be planted in Denver's "urban forest" by 2025: 1 million

Ranking of Denver on online media analyst SustainLane's greenest U.S. cities list: 9

7

## SOCIO-ECO-NOMIC

VAN JONES



"We want to create a new icon of the environmental movement," says Bay Area lawyer and environmental activist Van Jones. "Keep the polar bear and the hybrid, but let's add workers in hard hats." Jones, who founded Green for All, which puts low-income people into jobs created by the growing green economy, helped House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi shepherd the landmark Green Jobs Act of 2007, with its \$125 million authorization to train 35,000 workers a year in green-collar positions. Jones' next dream: the Clean Energy Jobs Corps, a social-uptake program that will put hundreds of thousands of Americans to work in the environmental sector, "installing solar panels, retrofitting the country's energy infrastructure...we'll be fighting global warming and poverty at the same time."







8

FRESH FACE

## ORIGINS

I DON'T GET WASTED. So read the new \$10 canvas tote bags on sale at Origins, which has always been eco-conscious and has now taken it to the next level—launching the first full line of beauty products to be certified organic by the USDA. The label is awarded to formulas that contain at least 95 percent organic ingredients, a high

bar for an industry where the word *natural* is bandied about. Origins Organics' ingredients are harvested by farmers who emphasize renewable resources; the packaging is a mix of responsibly forested paperboard and postconsumer recycled fiber, manufactured using wind power or hydro-power; and Origins offsets the electricity consumed by its U.S. stores by supporting wind energy—a CO<sub>2</sub> reduction that's roughly equivalent to planting 790,000 trees.

9

NETWORK NUDGE

## NAVIN NAYAK

"We knew it was bad, but we didn't realize how bad," says Navin Nayak, global warming director of the League of Conservation Voters.

**PROBLEM** Out of 2,275 questions about climate change asked of presidential candidates by the Sunday morning political talk show hosts, Nayak counted *three* about global warming.

**SOLUTION** He made a web video ("What Are They Waiting For?") that pieces together clips of Tim Russert, George Stephanopoulos, Wolf Blitzer, Bob Schieffer, and Chris Wallace posing hard-hitting questions about...the World Series, yellow labs, life in outer space. "They asked more questions about UFOs than global warming," Nayak laments.

**RESULT** Within days, more than 250,000 people had signed an online petition demanding that the pundits address the issue.

**PROGRESS?** A month later, the pundits had fired off...five questions about climate change. Nayak is watching. And counting.



10

ACTIVIST ACTRESS

## CATE BLANCHETT



### WHAT SCARED HER:

"I read an editorial [in 2004] saying that in 10 years' time Perth would run out of water. I waited for the front-page news to follow in the wake of this editorial. Silence."

### WHAT MAKES HER MAD:

"It's a sad and sorry day when the environment has to become groovy before people pay attention to it."

### WHAT SHE DID:

She and her husband, screenwriter Andrew Upton, are "greenovating" their \$10 million Sydney home to include solar panels, a recycled gray-water system, and energy-saving lights. As co-artistic directors of the Sydney Theatre Company (below), the couple has ambitious plans to take the 30-year-old theater off the grid this year, generating power through solar panels.



11

THE SUSTAINERS

## GOOGLE



Who better to bankroll renewable energy R&D than Google, whose third-quarter profits last year topped \$1.24 billion? In November, founders Larry Page and Sergey Brinn announced plans to pour hundreds of millions into a new initiative, RE<C, to create viable solar, wind, and geothermal technologies as cheaper, cleaner alternatives to coal. This will bring a major influx of much-needed cash to promising young companies already cracking the coal conundrum. For Google, it's just another way to green its already emerald bottom line. The carbon-neutral company, which powers its California campus with one of the largest solar panels in the country and offers hefty incentives for employees who drive hybrids or cycle to work, is studying ways to use electric plug-in vehicles and design more energy-efficient computers.



# ELLE READER GREEN AWARDS



## 13

RESPIN THE BOTTLE

### FIJI

The gold star goes to Fiji Water, which, after years of shipping millions of plastic bottles halfway around the world, has announced plans to go carbon negative—not neutral—this year. The company, headed by owners Stewart and Lynda Resnick, and in consultation with Conservation International, is vowing to reduce carbon emissions in the bottling and shipping process, minimize wasteful packaging, and protect Fiji's largest lowland rainforest from logging. Plus: we'd like to shout out to bleach giant Clorox (which purchased Burt's Bees in November 2007) for launching Green Works, a line of environmentally friendly consumer products that will bear the Sierra Club seal of approval.



## 12

AIR BUDDY

### RICHARD BRANSON

Offset your flight as you will, but while it may assuage your guilt, it won't change the facts: Commercial jets are oil hogs, and the aviation industry accounts for 3 percent of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide. Transportation and music tycoon Richard Branson wants to change that. In late February, the Virgin Atlantic president made history when a VA 747 powered by oil of babassu (a Brazilian nut), coconut oil, and conventional jet fuel flew from London to Amsterdam. Branson has pledged to invest \$3 billion from his transportation businesses for the next 10 years to find viable, renewable energy alternatives.



## 14

WEATHERING HEIGHTS

### SAM CHAMPION

One of the strangest disconnects over the past several years has been that TV meteorologists have been talking about the unseasonably warm winters, early springs, heat waves, and other erratic weather—yet, until recently, they never mentioned the words *global warming* or *climate change*. Champion changed that: On one of his first assignments as weather anchor for *Good Morning America*, in late 2006, he traveled to



Iceland and witnessed firsthand the melting ice cap. Since then, he's been saying the forbidden words loud, and saying them proud, to a mass-market audience. "I have the perfect venue," says Champion, who does one green segment a week. "People want to hear about it, and they want to talk about it."



## 15

ENVIRO ROCKERS

### REVERB

In late 2004, Adam Gardner, guitarist and vocalist in the acoustic-pop band Guster, and his wife, environmentalist Lauren Sullivan (top left photo; he's on the far left, she's second from the right), realized that the rock business was an environmental nightmare. Musicians crisscross the country in CO<sub>2</sub>-emitting buses to concerts where waste—of electricity, of oil and gas, of garbage—is the norm. So Gardner and Sullivan formed a nonprofit, Reverb, to green the music industry one concert at a time. Since then, Reverb has helped acts such as Dave Matthews and Alanis Morissette (both pictured above), John Mayer, Sheryl Crow, Jack Johnson, and Kelly Clarkson convert tour buses to biodiesel, erect "eco villages" at concerts to educate fans about pressing environmental issues, and replace polyester tees with organic cotton and plastic cups with reusable bottles. Gardner estimates that Reverb has reduced 29,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> and reached 4.4 million fans to date. In last year's Dave Matthews Band tour, concertgoers "neutralized" 1.2 million miles of auto emissions through Reverb's carbon-offset program. "The green revolution is becoming status quo," Sullivan says. One tour bus at a time.

Branson: Zack Seckler/Getty Images; plane: Tom Tracy/Getty Images; water bottle: courtesy of Fiji; cleaning supplies: courtesy of Clorox; Green Works: Champion, left: Jason Jaramillo/ABC News; right: Joe Kohn/WireImage; Reverb group: courtesy of Brian Allenby and Reverb; Morissette: Chad Buchanan/Getty Images; Matthews: Tim Moser/Getty Images



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# CARRY THAT WEIGHT

Now that environmentally conscious living and its obligatory angst have hit the mainstream, **Cathi Hanauer** can look back and laugh a little at how the green monster came upon her all in a rush—as an unlooked-for commitment bordering on a, well, unhealthy obsession

It's funny—as in, it's not actually that funny—how you can look back on a time in your life when you felt good, even great, and realize that you were slightly out of your mind. For me, this is true of just about every period (which naturally makes me wonder what I'll see when I look back on now), but the time I want to tell about is my late twenties, because even though it was a deeply passionate and pure time for me, it was also one of my most fanatical. And what I was fanatical about was “treading lightly on the earth.” That phrase is (happily) ubiquitous now, but back then—the tail end of the Live Large '80s—it came to me like fresh wisdom via a bitter and brilliant writing professor, and it seemed as novel, revolutionary, and crucial as anything I'd ever heard.

No doubt this was at least partly because the concept giped perfectly with the sparse existence I sought at that time, helped along by the fact that I had little money to live any other way. I'd quit my New York editing job to attend graduate school in Tucson, where tuition was free, space abundant, and cost of living a fraction of what it was in Manhattan. On leaving, I had shed my possessions like a child peels winter clothes on the first warm spring day, giving up everything from my closet full of sweaters and heels to my Jennifer sofa bed. Afterward, my entire life consisted of the contents of my newly purchased (used) CJ-7 Jeep: cat, computer, a bagful of T-shirts and jeans, and two or three little black skirts that would become the reminder of my former New York existence. And when I got to Arizona nine days later—along the way also, if unintentionally, discarding the pounds of muscle I'd acquired through years of hard gym workouts—I wanted to keep it that way; wanted, as I hiked quietly through the desert searching for the meaning of life, to keep myself, my “stuff,” my consumption whittled down to a shard.

It's not that I'd been some shopaholic pack rat; it's more that I'd had the accoutrements of a 1980s urban twentysomething working woman's life, from the products (hair, face, nails) and the meal plan (eat a lot, exercise a lot) to the material mentality (if it's out there, it's mine for the taking if I somehow earn the funds to buy it). In Arizona, by contrast, I bought the bare minimum to subsist on: a few thrift shop plates and pans; a door and two sawhorses for a desk; two pairs of faded-almost-white denim shorts; and a couple of secondhand tie-dye dresses. For three years, I didn't buy an item of makeup (including sunscreen, for which I could kill myself now). My bed was a mattress on a secondhand box spring, my night table a salvaged milk crate. At one drop per dish, my bottle of environmentally friendly dish detergent lasted more than a year.

I walked or biked nearly everywhere, including to the grocery store, pedaling home with my purchases in my backpack and hang-



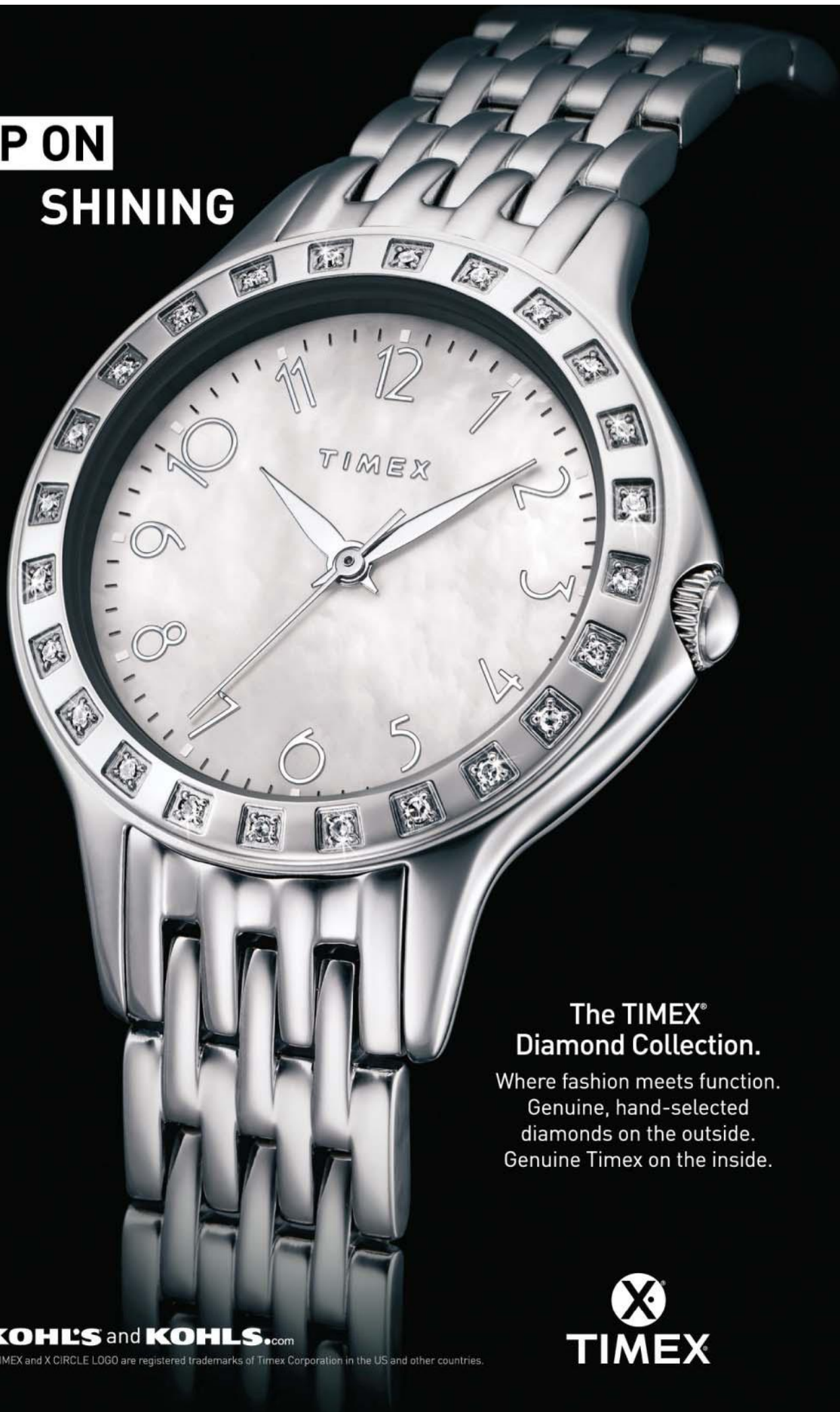
ing from my handlebars in reused, brought-from-home plastic bags. (This was before the only environmentally correct shopping bag was a reusable cloth one.) When I washed clothes—in cold water only, of course, sometimes skipping soap altogether—I hung them out on a line, reading Edward Abbey or Charles Bowden in the sun as they dried. Life was sparse, simple, cheap; I reveled in quiet lightness and autonomy.

**What happened,** of course, is that eventually my spartan, eco-conscious existence became a spartan, eco-conscious obsession—no surprise, given my type A, perfectionistic, sometimes neurotic personality. (“Why do you always have to analyze everything?” my sisters plead.) It's the same personality that earned me 4.0s and a Phi Beta Kappa key in college, that in my earlier twenties had me running through Central Park in the middle of the night to get my miles in: the personality that doesn't easily allow for not doing something all the way and absolutely right. In Arizona—where it was too hot to run anyway—my obsessive gene fixed on its new goal of treading lightly. And soon, what had been a pure, simple, graduate-school life turned into something a little more, well, over-the-top.

I created a “compost heap,” which transformed the lovely little front-yard garden I'd planted in the tiny patch of viable dirt—pale orange and cherry snapdragons, crimson and butterscotch pansies—into an eyesore of eggshells, coffee grounds, and banana peels that, given the lack of rainfall, would likely take years to degrade. Once I began, I couldn't throw away one single compostable thing anymore—even if, to my landlord's horror, they just formed a trash heap in the middle of my (his) yard.



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## ELLE READER PSYCHOLOGY

I'd bought a box of ziplock bags on my arrival in Tucson, and I think now that I was determined to make it last my entire three years there. On any given day, you'd find several haggard washed-out bags, aging wrinkled shells of their former creamy selves, drying inside out on my kitchen counter. I carried food from place to place in those bags, loath to either waste anything or consume more than I "needed." Dinner was a slice of pizza or a frozen yogurt, eaten with a plastic spoon I kept in my purse, because really, why use a new one and then throw it away? Afterward, I would gather the clean napkins left on tables in the student center and put them back on the dispenser, or take them home to use myself in lieu of the paper towels I no longer purchased...anything so they wouldn't go to waste.

I must have been quite the sight for the pumped-up, flaxen-haired, teenage gods and goddesses who formed much of the student body at U of A, me scurrying dark and tiny and angsty to pick up abandoned Snapple bottles while they tossed Frisbees or lay on the grassy quad in the sun, muscled midriffs displayed, vaguely doing homework but really fantasizing about each other as they sipped their Big Gulps. I figured they considered me a wackjob, enviro-hippie grad student, but I didn't care; I didn't envy them, any more than an emaciated anorexic envies her healthy, pizza-loving roommate, because I knew I was virtuous and noble and responsible. I was saving the world, or at least trying to. The problem, as the French psychoanalyst Jacques Lacan neatly put it, is that "to be an obsessional means to find oneself caught in a mechanism, in a trap increasingly demanding and endless."

So it does. Soon enough, in my efforts to waste nothing—paper, water, food, clothing, fuel—I began to despise anything "superfluous," from a smell (perfume was unbearable) to a plastic lid placed on a polystyrene cup of something I wasn't carrying far (and why

polystyrene in the first place, when it wasn't recyclable on campus and didn't biodegrade?). I wrote a short story called "Leftovers" about the greenhouse effect—before every first grader knew about global warming, before polar ice caps were melting (or at least before most of us were aware of it), and before items like organic hemp trousers and jackets made from recycled soda bottles were the fashion statement of the day—and got it published in a popular national magazine. Like the Andie MacDowell character in Steven Soderbergh's groundbreaking 1989 film *Sex, Lies and Videotape*, I could not stop thinking about garbage, landfills, floating barges of waste. My boyfriend, Dan, gave me a gift, a little clay owl with big eyes to "watch over me" when he wasn't there, and with a pang of sadness, I thanked him but said he should please not give me any more "things." Holidays—especially Christmas—I saw as nothing but material manifestations of evil corporations, and the idea of buying stuff, wrapping stuff, mailing stuff in boxes, being given stuff myself, filled me with anguish and dread.

Dan and I got married (he found it all charming and interesting, somehow), an East Coast country-club wedding requested and funded by my parents that I didn't want and couldn't embrace. I responded to what I considered the excess of the occasion—pretty fresh-cut flowers on the tables, a lovely dress I'd likely wear only once—by starving my already thin body further down. Advancement, technology—really, human progress of any kind, unless it was related to recycling or saving the planet—just depressed me. It was as if I could feel the world speeding by around me, faster and faster, consuming and devouring itself, eating up its resources, producing crap as fast as people could buy it and hurl it in the landfill. Things simply could not go on this way—was I the only one who saw this? It made me want to sit alone and still in a very dark room, doing nothing, using nothing, adjusting my very breathing to conserve oxygen and energy.



**Hungry Beast!**



If you were going to be obsessed with the environment in 1990, Tucson was a great place to be. As in much of the West, there was an awareness and sensibility there about the land—no doubt inspired by its beauty and accessibility, not to mention the lack of rainfall and water—that was harder to find back East. But eventually I had to come back to New York City; my work was there, along with my friends, plus my husband wanted to give it a shot. And New York, that land of overheated and over-air-conditioned buildings, of massive meat sandwiches and laptop-size slices of pizza, of “Would you like a bag with your bag?”—New York was a different story.

Never mind that urban living is infinitely greener than other kinds, what with walking everywhere and residing in small apartments that insulate one another. At market after market, I’d hear someone order an egg and cheese on a roll and a coffee and watch the cashier put the plastic-lidded cup in a paper bag with four or five sugars and creams, a stirrer, and a wad of napkins, then put that bag into another bag with the sandwich (which was wrapped in both foil and wax paper), salt and pepper packets, a plastic knife, and another napkin stack. Often, the busy recipient accepted the bag and, without breaking pace, extracted the roll and the coffee and dumped the rest into the trash bin just outside the store—or, more accurately, next to the bin, overflowing as it was with foil, salad containers, full packets of Kikkoman and Hellmann’s, and ever more clean napkins, whole trees’ worth, it seemed. I couldn’t stop watching. “I don’t need a bag,” I’d say, having purchased something already plastic-wrapped, and the cashier, ever efficient, never listening, would hand me one anyway. “No ketchup, thanks,” I’d say, and return to my temp job desk to find seven foil Heinz packets stuffed in with my fries. I had a drawer full of take-out condiments no one would ever use, because I couldn’t throw them away. Occasionally, I would think: What’s wrong with me? But then I’d think, No: What’s wrong with everyone else?

How, then, did I get over this fixation, these thoughts and actions that consumed my time, mind, and energy? Well. As I’ve intimated, we obsessive types never really “get over” our obsessions; we only shift them from one thing to another, or bury them in the plots of our minds to resurface in another decade. I got pregnant—because as much as I hated adding a person to the planet, I was 31 and wanted a baby—and for months I felt so sick that washing out ziplocks and contemplating landfills just wasn’t an option. There were doctors to visit, baby books to read, a crib (used, if possible) to be procured. I also had a job—I wrote advice for a teen magazine, and I had a novel coming out by then, with a second under contract—so whenever I wasn’t preparing for the baby (or curled in a ball of nausea), I was either attempting to write or advising young women on the minefields of love and friendship and parents who wouldn’t set them free. It’s not that I didn’t still think about global warming; it’s not that I didn’t still try to tread lightly. It’s just that these thoughts were forced aside in my brain, finally, to let something else in.

And then I had the baby, and as someone once said to me, “The only thing sweeter than idealism is the freedom gained after your ideals have been shattered.” Once you’re chucking eight or 10 dirty diapers a day into the landfill, you might as well dismount your high horse. And yes, I considered cloth diapers, but the space factor (housing, washing, and drying them in our New York apartment), the time-suck factor, and the water pollution factor held me back. So I bought the Huggies and I diapered my baby, and after she’d soiled the portable plastic butt-huggers, I tossed them—voila!—into the trash, just like all the other city mothers I knew except for one (who, I thought happily, was way more neurotic than I). I still felt bad about it—especially knowing, as I did, that America, with 5 percent of the people on earth, produces a third of all the world’s garbage—but I didn’t let it overwhelm me with guilt. Later, when that baby was long out of diapers, I would teach her to fight

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## ELLE READER PSYCHOLOGY

the good fight. But in the meantime, I would not let guilt overwhelm the joy, the miracle of life, that I was experiencing.

That baby turned 13 last week, and though I like to think that, so far, we're more or less on target with both the teaching and the joy, I'm still in no way "cured" of my environmental obsession. It's just that, in this aspect of life, as in others, I try to find a happy medium: that middle way between living an irresponsible, resource-gobbling existence, and living with constant and debilitating preoccupation with waste and global warming. For a long time, this actually wasn't terribly hard; life was so busy that it frankly left little room for fixating on anything—or, more accurately, I channeled that energy into staying on top of groceries, e-mail, laundry, and four people's social calendars, all without losing my job, not to mention my mind. If that sounds trite, it's also true: Going, going, going before collapsing in a heap of exhaustion at night (I'll just say it: mania) is a great way to ward off much thought.

Lately, though, it's become harder not to think about the environment overmuch, now that the rest of the country seems to have caught up with my once-obsession. Everywhere I go, especially living in an eco-friendly college town as I now do, I am urged to consume less, recycle more, help save the planet. This is good, of course—I'm thrilled to have others help me fish bottles out of garbage cans, to see bike-pulled trash collection on my block and greener options at my grocery store—but, like giving an anorexic a job at Weight Watchers, it can be a challenge to not let it drag me back into the trenches. Noble or not, I don't want to have to think about the carbon footprint of every morsel I eat, to look at every gift I receive as one more thing for the landfill. I don't want to be Greenorexia Girl, like the friend of a friend who got so freaked out about toxic chemicals in plastic that she moved every plastic item from

her house into the garage, where they now sit until she can find a way to recycle them.

"If you're not outraged, you're not paying attention," rant the bumper stickers in my town, and certainly rage is easy enough, with SUVs blowing by and cell phone companies luring customers into buying new, even higher-tech phones when there's not a thing wrong with the old ones. But I want to pay attention without being outraged, thank you.

Sometimes, I admit, in order to do this I have to act more cavalier than I feel—to essentially try to pull one over on myself. Straightening the fridge, I'll hurl the ancient take-out containers of sour cream and guacamole into the garbage in a big cleaning frenzy, only to come back an hour later and dig them all out, scrubbing my way to penance before placing them in the recycling bin. But then, I *have* managed not to obsess about how to make my aging Volvo into a grease car (the ones that run on leftover food-grade vegetable oil—if you suddenly smell french fries on the highway, you're probably passing one), helped by the fact that you actually need a diesel engine. But that's part of my point. Some of it, some of getting over any obsession, is about simply forcing yourself to be rational rather than idealistic. To remind yourself, again and again if need be, that humans are neither designed nor supposed to be perfect, and any attempt to be so almost always sucks the joy out of life.

That doesn't mean we get to ruin the planet, of course, and we all know by now that we (oops!) forgot that for a few decades there, and it's time to make things right again. But while we try, I can still watch my kid fold a paper airplane and fly it, I can still take the occasional bite of a very red fruit, I can turn up the heat a degree so I'm not shivering, as long as I'm grateful for all of it. If I'm not doing my absolute best, I tell myself, it's a more human close-enough. I just have to remember to turn the heat back down and recycle the airplanes at the end of the day. ●

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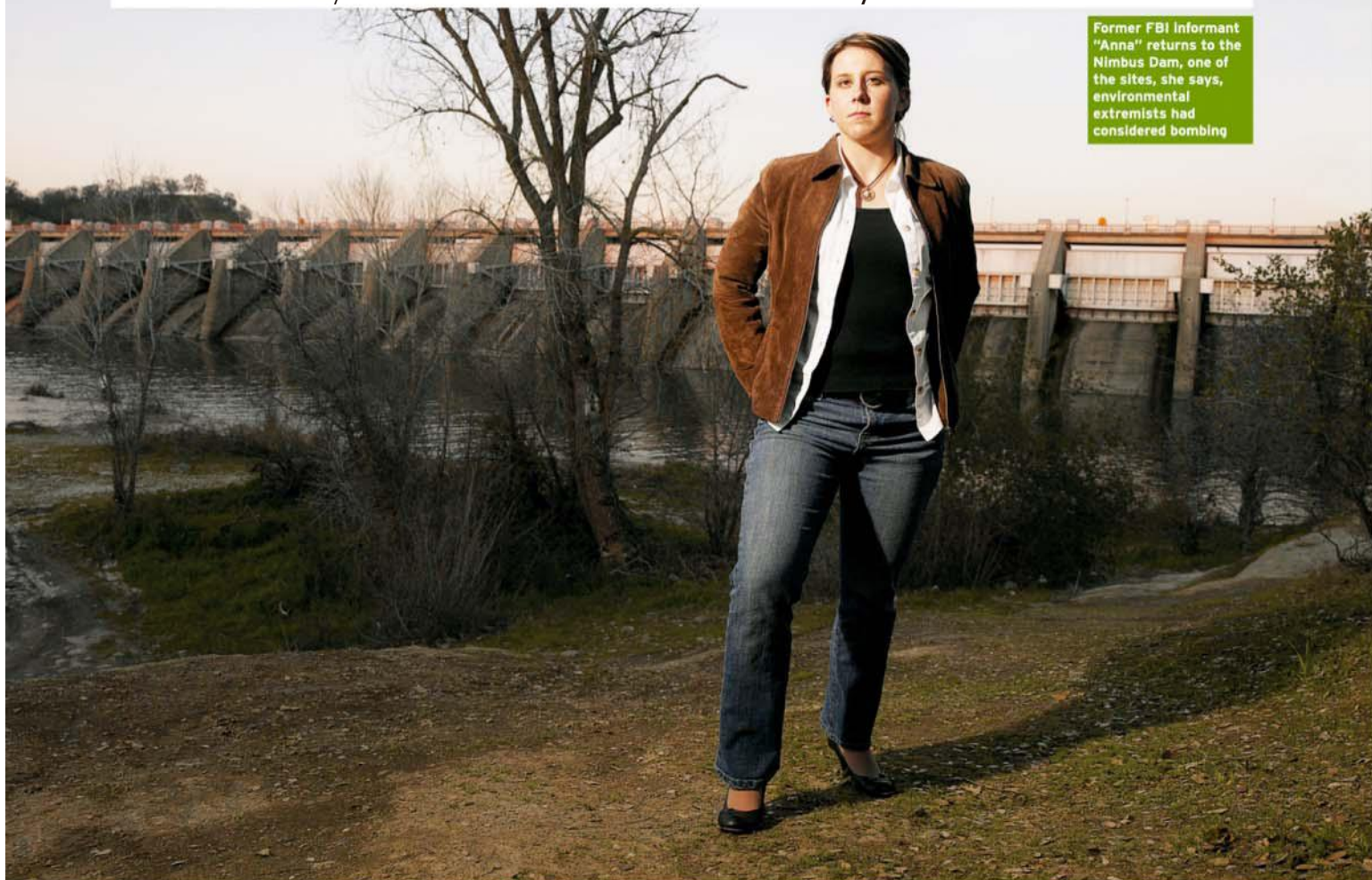
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# THE BELIEVERS

Anna's "friends" believed in striking a blow against capitalism and for the environment. Anna believed they were dangerous terrorists. Did she lead them down the primrose path to self-destruction, or did she save us from extremists run amok? Maybe not even Anna knows for sure. **By Andrea Todd**

Former FBI Informant "Anna" returns to the Nimbus Dam, one of the sites, she says, environmental extremists had considered bombing



It had been a long day at the 2005 CrimethInc Convergence in Bloomington, Indiana, a day of extremes: extreme heat, extreme stress, extreme opinions. Each year since 2002, hundreds of activists—environmental and animal rights radicals, anarcho- and crust-punk bands, tree huggers, vegans, and freegans—descend on urban centers from Athens, Georgia, to Winona, Minnesota, for CrimethInc (a nod to the Orwellian concept of “Thoughtcrime”). The event is a conflagration of protests against all things capitalist and consumerist: record labels, the market economy, corporate influence, working for a living. Food is available in exchange for information (holistic healing, legal advice, propagandist leaflet publishing). No money is allowed; sharing is required. Signs, posted everywhere, announce POLICE NOT WELCOME.

For two years now, a young woman in camo pants, black sweatshirt, military boots, and pink hair, known to both her fellow eco-

activists and FBI employers as “Anna,” had been crashing the party. At her first CrimethInc (Des Moines 2004), she’d met 26-year-old Eric McDavid, now seated beside her in her compact car. He’d hit her up for a ride to Chicago rather than make the 230-mile journey via the anarchist-favored mode of transport, train-hopping. Both looked forward to the ride for different reasons. McDavid wanted to spend time alone with this woman he’d met a year earlier, who liked to talk about blowing things up; get to know her better. She wanted to get to know him better too. Just not in the same way.

The car stank of body odor and sweat, thanks to the extremists’ rejection of regular bathing and hygiene products like antiperspirant (too many brain-withering chemicals). Vicks VapoRub, which Anna routinely dabbed inside her nose, made it barely tolerable. After a few minutes of idle road-trip banter about the conference and flirtations among their fellow activists, Anna, doing as she’d

Douglas Adesko



been instructed by the FBI, steered the conversation toward a college buddy of McDavid's, Ryan Lewis.

Lewis was an environmental extremist—at that time sitting in the Sacramento County Jail, awaiting his trial on charges of conspiracy to commit arson. Lewis had allegedly planted bombs in office building and housing development sites, crediting ELF—the Earth Liberation Front, a loose network of radical environmentalists—with his work.

“So, did you help him?” Anna asked. He said no, he hadn’t.

“I don’t believe you—you’re pretty militant,” she sassed back.

“I have my own plans,” McDavid responded, and talked a bit about the bomb recipe he’d scored at Mountain Justice. He asked Anna, whom he knew as a medic in the movement, if he blew his hand off building a bomb, would she take care of him?

“I’d have to think about it.”

After a tense silence, McDavid told Anna that if he ever found out she was a cop, he’d kill her.

Anna had a split second to react and get it right. Did he know? Did he suspect? Was it all over?

“Fuck you!” she shouted back, keeping her eyes on the road, feeling her face flush. “You think that about me after all this time? Fuck you! If I find out *you’re* a cop, I’ll kill *you*!”

McDavid smiled and settled back in his seat. “Good,” he said.

**This is Anna’s version of the story** (McDavid denies this conversation ever took place), and like so many of her spy tales, it unfolds with cinematic flourish, showcasing her rapid thinking under pressure. Arranging to meet her has been no easy task. She will not tell

that I come from a line of cops and firefighters, she’s comfortable with that.

The second time we meet—same place—Anna apologizes for not greeting me right away. She said she thought she’d spotted my car, pointing to another white Honda Civic. “But it wasn’t your license plate.” She also apologizes for being so paranoid, detailing the threats against her life, via phone, e-mail, and in posts on ELF message boards. “I’ve just started rebuilding some of the personal relationships I had to let go,” she says, including a boyfriend. She had no way to explain to her parents the money she was getting from the FBI—“They thought I was dealing drugs.”

Later, the FBI told her that her work was “nothing short of heroic,” that they’d placed undercover agents in eco-terrorist cells before, but they had all been found out. Even her bitter enemies admit her sleuthing has rocked the environmental extremist movement.

Some critics dismissed her as “an easily bribed student,” but truthfully, money had nothing to do with it. Anna says she grew up “happy” in an upper-middle-class family, the middle child and only girl, who, like the stereotype, yearned for attention. Her father was an educator, her mother a homemaker; both were once what Anna describes not unaffectionately as “former Vietnam-era protest hippies. But that was 35 years ago,” she quickly points out. “I wasn’t rebelling by adopting moderate conservative views.”

As a 15-year-old, Anna says she was so enraged by 9/11 that just days afterward, she e-mailed a site called Militarywomen.org expressing her desire to join the Army and study counterintelligence. “My friends and I saw that plane fly into the World Trade Center, and we thought right away that it was [some Palestinian]

“I had no idea what I was getting into. Here I was, getting knocked to the ground by the NYPD, having an eco-terrorist threaten to kill me. I felt like I was in over my head.”

me where she lives; she will come to me, insisting on a public spot in Folsom, California, near Sacramento. As I drive into the lot in front of an area coffee shop, my cell phone rings. “I think you just pulled in,” she says. Then, “It’s Anna.”

I check my rearview mirror. “Where are you?” I ask, but the line’s dead. I snap the phone closed, check again, and there she is. These days, she’s a brunette. In jeans, a blazer, and makeup, she looks older than I expected (she won’t confirm her age, but according to newspaper reports, she’d be about 22 now); still, she has the skin of an adolescent and the creamy, pudgy hands of a child. When she drops her keys and bends to retrieve them, you can spot a colorful tattoo on her back.

Before acquiescing to a face-to-face, she had laid down some ground rules in our e-mail exchanges (which, though her tone is wary and businesslike, are also punctuated with the occasional emoticon): no talk about where she’s from, her family, what she studied in college, what she’s doing now. As we get to know each other better, as we will over the course of several days, driving her rental car to revisit the sites her cell targeted for bombing, and over wine she orders as expertly as a sommelier, she opens up, then just as quickly changes her mind about what details I can print. She makes many snap judgments: “I heard you went to Berkeley and was like, Oh, no, a hippie.” But when she learns

terrorist group,” she recalls, adding, “Keep in mind, we were teenagers reading *The Economist*.” By 2003, to escape her parents’ acrimonious divorce, Anna had left high school, taken the GED, and started college in Miami.

Perhaps, as part of a generation shaped by 9/11, Anna remained attuned to terrorism—any terrorism—on U.S. soil, developing a hatred of those who would kill innocent Americans and a heightened sense of retribution. (While so many of her generation today burn with Obama fever, Anna staunchly supports McCain. “I’m a hawk,” she proclaims.) And so when in October 2003 one extremist group claimed responsibility for the ammonium-nitrate bombing of the Pleasanton, California, offices of Shaklee Inc., a maker of personal care products (and which, ironically, has ranked since 1989 on PETA’s list of companies that don’t test on animals), “It showed me that anyone can be a target,” Anna says, darkly. The well-publicized anonymous e-mail explaining the violent act—though damage was minimal—read like a serial killer’s, declaring that the size of bombs would be doubled with each attack: “Customers and their families are considered legitimate targets,” it read. “...You never know when your house, your car even, might go *boom*.”

Enrolled in a challenging night class (she won’t say on what subject), Anna was determined to impress her “brilliant” profes-



## ELLE READER INVESTIGATION

sor. Reading in the paper about activists gearing up to protest the Free Trade Area of the Americas Miami conference—the FTAA seeks to unite the North and South American economies, but critics say it exploits underdeveloped countries—she decided to attend some of the meetings for an extra-credit project. On her

police department: “This is really impressive work.” They were saying, ‘Could you come down here to the Command Center this afternoon and talk about it with us?’”

“And I’m like, Who? Huh?”

Anna met with two Miami police officers who wanted to send



If the cellmates succeeded in their plans to implode the Nimbus Dam, U.S. Attorney McGregor Scott claimed, it would have made “what happened in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina look like a Sunday pancake breakfast.”



(Counterclockwise, from top) The handbook of the now-defunct Black Tea Society, an anarchy group formed to protest the 2004 Democratic National Convention; a family photo of Eric McDavid; Anna (front, second from right) marches to protest the G8 summit in June 2004; United for Peace and Justice protesters rally in front of New York City's Madison Square Garden the day before the 2004 Republican National Convention

the next night, this time having dressed in the attire she'd noticed the others wearing: musty, mismatched Goodwill clothing and military boots. She had washed off her habitual mascara and lipstick and wrapped her head in a scarf.

Hanging around the gathering, it was easy for Anna to pick up information about the protestors' plans—from where marches would be held to where the trade talk bigwigs were staying. The following evening she presented her report. The professor wasn't the only one impressed. Afterward, one of her classmates, a Florida highway patrol officer, approached her, asking if he could take home a copy of the report.

“The next morning at 8 A.M., I’m a college student, right? Half-asleep and the phone rings—no shit, I get a call from the Miami

her to the Convergence, an epicenter of activist planning where protestors get information, instructions, supplies. “Law enforcement is easy to spot in these groups,” Anna says. “Cops put the clothes on, but they walk a certain way, they stand a certain way”—it’s the reason for the agency’s failure to penetrate the movement, she claims. “They remained adversarial. I had more of a researcher’s viewpoint.”

Anna’s first assignment would be to attend the G8, or Group of Eight summit, near Atlanta later that summer. An international forum for the governments of the eight nations who represent 65 percent of the world economy and the majority of military expenditure, G8 summits are extremist hot spots. The Miami agents also wanted to book her for both the Democratic and Republican National Conventions, in Boston and New York, respectively, later in the summer. For any investigation of these groups to be legitimate—to get around the “freedom of assembly” right U.S. citizens are afforded—law enforcement needs to have proof of illegal activity. Anna’s FTAA report gave them the green light. “This was Christmas come early for them,” Anna says with a laugh.

Although ELF and its furry-friendly cousin, the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), are intent on destroying government and corporate property without any loss of life—in the roughly 15 years they’ve been organizing, there has been an estimated \$100 million in damage without a single fatality—the Bush administration likens these groups to Al-Qaeda, and considers them “one of the FBI’s highest domestic priorities,” as FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III has said. Under Bush, since 9/11, the number of members in the Bureau’s Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTFs) has more than quadrupled. The Feds’ efforts have resulted in several high-profile busts, including “Operation Backfire”—the government’s decade-long investigation and subsequent indictment in 2006 of 11 of the country’s most notorious environmental activists, known as “The Family,” credited for much of the big-damage, “direct-action” eco-terrorism, including the \$12 million torching of a ski resort in Vail. Meanwhile, ELF activists claimed responsibility for the costliest act of eco-extremism on U.S. soil, the \$50 million incineration of an apartment complex under construction in San Diego. Eco-extremists believe that developments like these desecrate the surrounding natural environments. “We must all act our consciousness and inflict economic harm upon all of those who are







# ELLE READER INVESTIGATION

responsible for the destruction of the earth and its inhabitants. We encourage others to find a local Earth raper and make them pay for the damages they are inflicting," reads a typical statement from one-time ELF spokesperson Craig Rosebraugh.

Environmentalists refer to the government's ongoing sweep of these radical groups, many of which have no "list" membership but are composed of a loose network of anarchists and activists, as the "Green Scare," an overt reference to the Red Scare of the McCarthy Era. The stage for the investigation had been set by the broad reach of Bush's Patriot Act and the fact that after 9/11, then-Attorney General John Ashcroft amped up the guidelines for counterintelligence gathering—approving aggressive investigative tactics previously reserved for CIA operations. "The government has it in for a group of individuals they sloppily lump together as anarchists, radicals, ELF and ALF environmentalists—the collective bogeyman," says Ben Rosenfeld, a civil rights attorney in California's Bay Area. "Now they have a slew of new resources and laws to target people for their ideology."

The FBI insists that, because these cells are tightly knit and transient, intensive undercover work, secret surveillance, and aggressive pressure of those arrested and charged with crimes to cooperate, is the only effective way to stop the attacks before they are carried out. Civil liberties groups naturally oppose such tactics in the name of terror-watching. "Calling individuals associated with any of these groups 'the No. 1 threat to security' is really hyperbolic," Rosenfeld says, as FBI Deputy Assistant Director John Lewis did in 2005. Since 1990, more than 1,800 criminal acts in the U.S. have been attributed to ELF, ALF, and similar groups, says FBI spokesperson Bill Carter (but they include everything from vandalism and arson to threatening letters and phone calls). "Basically, the FBI no longer concentrates on crime solving, but has moved to crime prevention"—which creates some serious constitutional issues, namely that innocent-until-proven-guilty cornerstone of our legal system.

Yet, nonviolent environmental groups such as Greenpeace, Earthjustice ("The Earth's lawyers"), and even Earth First!, the original eco-terrorist organization, are quick to distance themselves from these extremist factions. Most contend that eco-terrorists have the same negative effect on the green movement as Muslim terrorists have on the Islamic faith: guilt by association.

"To believe that these people aren't capable of harm or serious attack is not giving them enough credit," Anna says, as we speed along California's Highway 80 in her rental car to the cabin in Dutch Flat, the wooded spot where the group attempted its first homemade bomb. "These people believe in this movement on a very deep and spiritual level.... The earth is feeling the pain of the dying birds and trees, and she is sending out a call to arms, a spiritual and religious call to arms."

But there's no mistaking the typical anarchist/eco-activist gathering for an Al-Qaeda training camp; a three-ring circus is more like it. G8 was no exception, and activists were cooking up big plans. "These people look back to the World Trade Organization riots in 1999 as their big moment: We had the revolution for a little bit," Anna says, referring to the five days during which 50,000 protestors swarmed Seattle, rioting and looting, resulting in 600 arrests. "G8 was supposed to be WTO II." Anna put school on hold in order to throw herself into the planning meetings for G8 and the political conventions—"I thought it would be temporary, like a summer break, and then I'd be right back in school." In the meantime, she had been perfecting her undercover role. Choosing the identity of a medic—one offering the most passivity within the movement—Anna would offer aid or assistance to protestors suffering from hypothermia or heat exhaustion and carry supplies of holistic medicine: lavender bandages, homemade splints, natural



(From top) The cabin in Dutch Flat where Anna and "friends" conspired; one of their targets: the Institute of Forest Genetics, which genetically develops trees

oils and herbs. Her uniform consisted of the camo pants, boots, sweatshirt, red armband, and Palestinian kaffiyeh scarf that help members blend in during protests. An "initiation tattoo"—a skull and black flag on her shoulder—is part of her undercover work as well; she intends to have it removed as soon as she can save the three grand it costs to do so.

Despite organizers' aspirations, only about 50 protestors showed up at G8—though it wasn't a complete loss. As a "confidential source," Anna was providing the agency with names, reports on any illegal activity, and observations about the inner workings of the movement. And it was there that Anna met a quiet young protester called Ollie—"as in Ollie Oxen," Anna says, the phrase used in children's hide-and-seek games and the name of his pro-eco, anarchist website (most serious activists use handles). "Ollie" was actually Zachary Jensen, who lived in Tennessee and was so poor that he qualified for—and helped feed his comrades with—food stamps. Via Jensen and others, Anna scored an invite to the Crime+Inc Convergence in Des Moines, where law enforcement had most wanted to place her. "You are invited to attend these things when you serve a role, are considered trustworthy and important," she says.

In August 2004, Anna phoned Jensen from a Des Moines truck stop to say that she'd just hitchhiked up from Florida, and could someone come and get her? Jensen, accompanied by four friends, piled into a car to pick her up. One of those friends was McDavid.

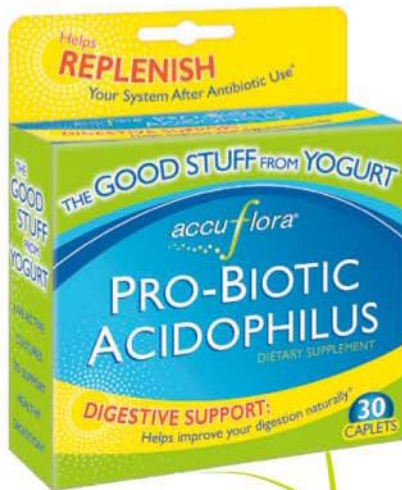
**Eric McDavid grew up in Orangevale, California,** a middle-class suburb near Sacramento. Six feet tall and 200 pounds, the affable redhead played football for Casa Robles High School and worked as a carpenter for a bit while studying philosophy and conflict resolution at Sierra College. His parents—mother, a marriage and family therapist; father, a computer engineer—both from mid-western farming families, raised their children with a respect for the land. McDavid had been involved with the peace movement since the beginning of the Iraq war; when his parents gave him *Dude, Where's My Country?*, Michael Moore's anti-Bush policy polemic, it changed his life forever.

Today, seated on the other side of a glass pod in the Sacramento County Jail, McDavid has dropped more than 50 pounds from hunger-striking for vegan food, as a result of which he has also





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developed a heart condition. His collarbone juts from his orange jumpsuit. His head is shaved but his goatee is strawberry blond, giving him an incongruously jolly look. He reaches under the slot at the bottom of the glass and his handshake is light and quick. He sits down and smiles. Smiles even when I mention Anna's name.

McDavid reluctantly recalls details of their first meeting. "She had bright pink hair and wore a camouflage skirt," McDavid says. "I was scared of her. She had this strong, feminine energy. Very independent, which I thought to be very cool." The hitchhiking story, he admits, was part of the allure at first. "Now I know, hell no, she didn't hitchhike. I know now the FBI dropped her off." (When I ask Anna about this later, she just laughs.)

"So she arrives and starts throwing her stuff around," McDavid continues, noting that she wasn't exactly spouting activist rhetoric. "She was very subtle about everything."

Almost everything: "I'm out smoking a cigarette and she comes and stands next to me and says, 'So when are you gonna let

without incident, she said.'" (Meanwhile, Anna was actually sitting in a New York coffee shop being debriefed by the Miami FBI.)

The months following President Bush's reelection in November 2004 ushered in a time of heightened eco-terrorist activity. A series of crude explosive devices was discovered in upscale subdivisions and an apartment complex, all in northwestern California. Graffiti sprayed nearby declared WE WILL WIN—ELF, and letters sent to area papers said more actions were planned. Law enforcement ratcheted up their vigilance, and McDavid dropped out of sight just after investigators arrested his college friend Ryan Lewis on charges of arson. Two weeks later, FBI agents showed up on the McDavid family's doorstep.

The McDavids were puzzled about the inquest, describing their son as a peacemaker and an animal lover who settled squabbles between his two younger sisters, who would scare them with spiders and then transport the spiders, by hand, back to the garden. "He



“Anna is still inside the car and I'm asking myself, Why aren't they worried about her, why are they leaving her alone? And that's when it hit me. That's when I knew.”

me go to bed?" McDavid recalls, grinning at the supposed implication. "I look at Jenson, he looks at me, and we're like, Huh. Okay. So she's like that." The two ended up sleeping next to each other, but nothing happened. ("I think our feet touched," Anna recalls emphatically.)

Anna describes her first impression of McDavid as "this chubby kid who played football," "warm to everyone at the gathering," and "a real gentleman." She was aware of her effect on him, though conventional modes of flirtation weren't going to win any points with the opposite sex. "One of the best things about this movement is the way women are treated and viewed," Anna says. "They reject typical standards of beauty, that you have to be stick-thin, with Pantene hair, perfect skin. I was often told if I didn't look so mainstream I'd be more attractive. They focus on a woman's independence, her passion, her conviction. And she is treated as an equal." Furthermore, Anna had fashioned herself into a "straight-edge asexual": "I met a woman early on who had this persona, and I sort of adopted it for myself," she says. "The idea being, my body is a temple. No drugs, no chemicals, nothing will come into my body, not even a penis." Anna thinks it was partly her off-limits identity that continued to fuel McDavid's interest.

And, no doubt, her ability to play the impassioned, balls-out protestor. When the four regrouped later that month on the steps of the New York Public Library for the RNC demonstrations—where AIDS activists protested nude, mothers of soldiers killed in Iraq carried signs that read BUSH KILLED MY SON, and eco-activists arrived with their giant Earth float and Krazy Glue to gum up department store doors—Anna headed for the eye of the storm, even as her comrades hung back. "Anna gets hyped up about moving to the upper platform and tries to recruit the rest of us to do the same," McDavid says. "About five go up, and the cops converge on the whole group." Handcuffed, she was led off to a van parked on the street. "I'm concerned. I'm wondering, Why they hell are they grabbing her?" he says. She never emerged from the van.

Jenson was also bothered by the arrest. "We talked later about how she just—poof!—disappeared. Held for two days, then released

wouldn't let any of us kill spiders," Eileen McDavid says. An open-minded mother, she saw the whole "traveling" period as part of her son's journey to find himself. At one point, Eric had expressed that he was in love with two women (he'd been dating someone from outside the movement) and was trying to decide between them. "He was at that age, so yes, I thought, maybe this is it, maybe he's serious," she shrugs. It saddens her now to realize that one of these women was Anna.

Anna finally laid eyes again on McDavid that summer at the apartment of a friend of Jenson's named Lauren Weiner, "Wren." Brought up in the affluent New York City suburb of Pound Ridge, Weiner was active in the eco-movement while studying at the Philadelphia College of Art. McDavid was "barely recognizable," Anna recalls. "He looked like a Viking. He was lean, buff, like he'd been working out. He had all these piercings and was suddenly so radicalized." At one point, out on Weiner's balcony, McDavid approached Anna: "I want to talk to you in private," he said. McDavid confessed his feelings for her. "He said he thought we were soul twins, we needed to be together. He put his arm around me."

In a later recorded conversation about that night (after Anna's status had been upgraded to wear a wire), she reveals to Weiner that she called out McDavid on how much he'd changed and asked about his influences. "Well, you, for one," he allegedly responded. How much of McDavid's hard-core transformation was an attempt to please Anna, and how much of it was self-directed, would become a pivotal question later on.

Anna and McDavid were together that August at the Bloomington CrimethInc Convergence, at which about 300 people participated in workshops on subjects such as how to maintain a vegan lifestyle, be a political prisoner, or break out of handcuffs ("Master keys for handcuffs," says Anna, adding, "Information from that workshop went out to everyone in the FBI."). At the conference's close, McDavid eagerly hopped that ride with Anna to Chicago, during which Anna says he talked about Lewis, confirming FBI suspicions about their association and leading the agency to tag him as a person of interest.

(CONTINUED ON page 323)

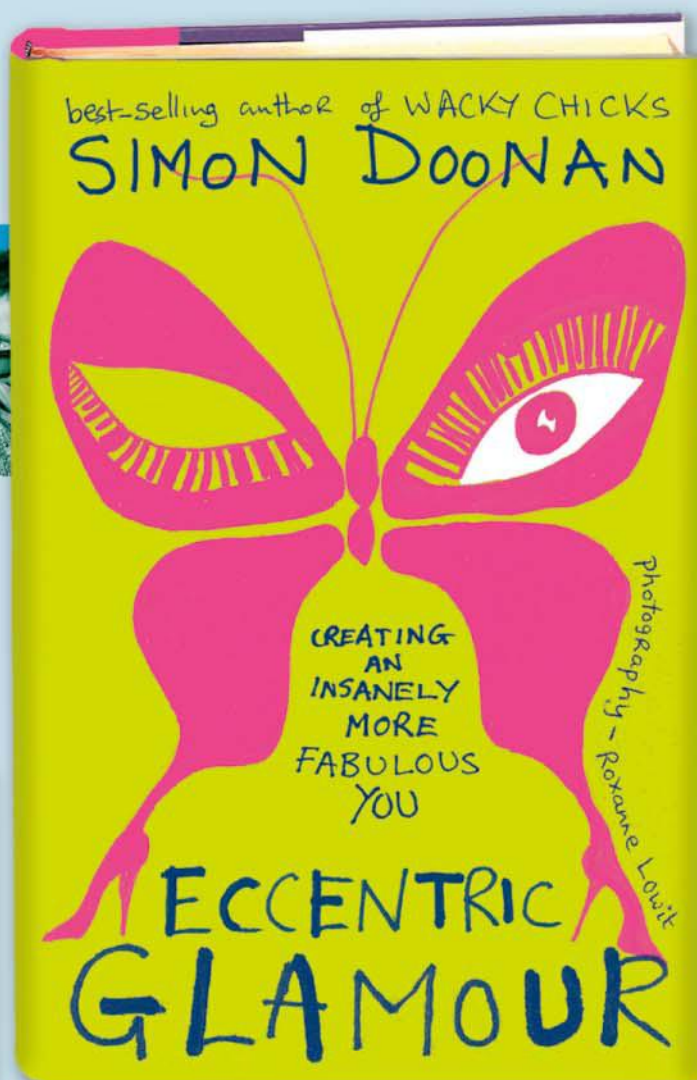


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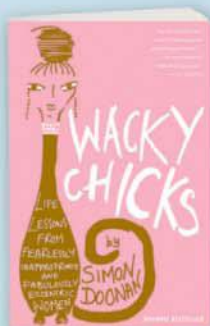
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# ASK E. JEAN

Tormented? Driven witless? Whipsawed by confusion?

**D**olls, in honor of ELLE's luscious Green Issue, I'm reducing the Ask Eeee Column's eco-footprint. First, I'm putting on two pairs of hemp pajamas and a recycled golf sweater from the '50s. Next, I'm pouring a glass of Chartreuse that's been distilled from 130 organic French mountain herbs by mute monks and preparing a plate of my cashew-butter-and-banana ozone sandwiches. And finally, I'm turning off my computer, shutting off the electricity to my (little) mountain cabin, and writing this on recycled paper with seaweed ink. Just let me toss some Paul Newman premium non-greenhouse-gassy treats to the dogs. Okay. Ready. Now, let's rock this planet....

## The Woman With No Calling

**Dear E. Jean:** Help me! My love life is in the crap hole. I am 26, just started out as an attorney, and was recently seeing an amazing man. Our dates were remarkably romantic. He was very sweet. But one day he just never called back.

*I realized that this is a constant occurrence! Every time I go out with a new guy, the first couple weeks are awesome, and then...they drop off. No explanation, nothing. They're just gone.*

*I don't play games and am extremely honest. My first thought is that they're not calling back because I'm very independent. Are men afraid of success? Am I dating the wrong men? Am I too intimidating? Or is my personality just a turnoff?*

—What's Wrong With Me?

**Wrong, my arctic she-wolf:** If a chap can't withstand the fire of your beauty and the breathlessness of your wit, he's a douche-nozzle. And if in the face of crumbling call-backs you start fretting about being too

independent, the very worry will cause desperation and make you *appear* needy—that's what the guys are probably picking up on.

But you're right about one thing, Miss Wrong: Vice President Dick Cheney will enjoy sexual congress with a polar bear before this guy calls you back because of your "success," "independence," and "honesty."

Be yourself. Also, if you wear something pretty, ask him about himself, are intrigued by what he says (i.e., if you employ those arts of torment, subterfuge, and invention you learned as a four-year-old girl, which nobody mentions but which are the very essence of allure), and stop worrying about how "intimidating" you are, then you'll soon be compelled to double your phone-plan minutes just to take calls from the men phoning you back in spite of your legal-icious triumphs.

P.S. If you're an adventurous eco-sexual, try Earth Wise Singles (at [Ewsingles.com](http://Ewsingles.com)) or GreenSingles (at [Greensingles.com](http://Greensingles.com)).

## What's in a Name?

**Dear E. Jean:** I met this guy at work. We hated each other, then we became friends, then we started dating, and then I got pregnant (after only three weeks!). I'm due next month.

*We decided to stay together—actually, for the rest of our lives. We're having a wedding, but since I'm as big as a beached whale, we're waiting till after I give birth.*

*Everything was cool until I told him that I wanted the baby to have my last name instead of his. I'm practically the only one with my last name left in this country. At first he was all right with the idea, but now he says I'm being unfair. He claims the baby should have his last name because that's the way it's been done "since God created mankind." Besides, he says, he'd be ashamed/embarrassed in front of his family, especially his father.*

*It has been fight after fight. I feel like I'm*



Photographed by Gregg Delman (styling by Christian Strobler; hair: Eduardo Carrasco at Ford Artists NYC; makeup: Sylwia Rakowska at Ford Artists NYC); all artwork courtesy of NyeHaus, New York



*the bad guy dealing with a huge macho ego instead of the man I love. What do I do? He's now told me I can name the baby anything I want; but if I want this relationship to continue, it has to be with his last name. Help!*

—The Last One Standing Needs a Backup

**Standing, my harp seal:** It is perfectly proper to give the child *both* of your surnames, as in Prudence Baxter-Heppenstall or Roderick Glossop-Plank. It will prevent your name from dying out and bestow a noble luster upon your offspring.

You may put either surname first, and hyphenate the names if you wish, or style the name without (as in “Camilla Parker Bowles”). I have the hots for the hyphen because when your child grows up and meets another child with a hyphenated surname, they can then marry and bear the illustrious double-double hyphenate (with strong odds of it being the *only* one like it in the world).

Note: Your chap sounds a bit starchy. I suggest that before the baby arrives you go away together to one of those lively couples’ workshop weekends where you learn various strategies for talking, not fighting. And speaking of babies: The best book ever written to help parents detoxify and green their households is *Healthy Child Healthy World* (Dutton) by Christopher Gavigan, and it’s out now.

## The Screamer and the Saint

**Dear E. Jean:** My boss runs a large family business. He’s generous and smart, but he is a lousy communicator and has a crazy-explosive temper. He’s lost employees because he throws things at us. (He physically went after my sweet husband, who then quit immediately.) Needless to say, when he screams at me it’s humiliating and crushing. The last time he took me outside and shouted at me, I began sobbing uncontrollably. I’m at my wit’s end. I could quit, but you see...

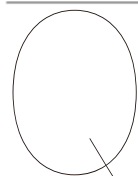
...He’s my brother, and it’s my family business too. He has a ton of redeeming qualities, but it’s not enough. Help me, E. Jean! My father had the same explosive temper; but now even my parents can’t control him. I’m bright, positive, compassionate, and above all, a patient woman; however, I can’t take much more of this!

—Silent Sister

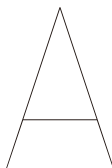
**Silent, my caribou:** I beg your pardon, I hate giving you more pain, but your brother is un-

stable. It’s a miracle the company—along with the whole family fortune—has not been annihilated by multiple lawsuits from employees who’ve been assaulted/harassed by your brother.

Call the family together and decide the best way of getting him rage rehab—stat! Do not return to the office until your brother has taken the proper steps to get himself under control. If the family or your brother does not act, do not give them power over you to go on inflicting pain. Take a leave of absence.



*I need to lose 20 pounds but can't get myself to exercise! When I try to diet, I get sidetracked because I "mess up" the day and then blow off the gym. I'm a fashion addict, and the things I want to wear would look so much better if I were leaner.*



The big Two-Oh? You’re awfully charming, but that’s one hell of a pudgy carbon footprint you’re clomping there, girl. If you, a “fashion addict,” can’t manage to lose weight for the sake of Prada, can you do it to save the penguins? The carbon-belch from the growing, packaging, and shipping of all that extra slop you’re eating is melting the penguins’ home. Did you see *Happy Feet*? You want all those cute penguin babies to die? Stop melting the damn ice caps! Live simply so the penguins can live. Ride your bike—to work, the post office, the Whole Foods. You’ll be as thin as a lettuce leaf in no time. Do it! Or I’ll sic Ed Begley Jr. on you.



## Lady Love

**Dear E. Jean:** I’m attractive and have been out as a lesbian for about a year. I’m a member of a matchmaking service for professional gays and lesbians. The dates I went on from the service were not successful. I’ve tried Internet dating. Disastrous! I’m also a member of a lesbian Meetup.com group. I’ve not found anyone who makes my heart flutter.

I know exactly what I’m looking for, and I have a lot to offer. Am I missing something?

*Meanwhile, I’m constantly being hit on by men, which is very annoying!*

—A Femme in Distress

**Ahhhh, Femme, my polar fox:** Places you’re missing: PinkSofa.com (dating, chatting, making friends), Facebook.com (hundreds of witty, playful, useful lesbian groups), Treehugger.com (“bike dykes,” vegans, and outdoorsy types rollick in the forums). Then you have your lesbian bars, nightclubs, reading groups, and bookstores; also your sports teams, local farmers’ markets, Critical Mass rallies, gay-friendly churches, and the gym. But the best way to meet someone ravishing this year is by volunteering for your presidential candidate (uh, that is, if your nominee is gay-friendly and *not* afraid to touch the topic with a 10-foot dildo).

Gertrude Stein would strike out—hell, even V. Sackville-West would take off the trousers and stay at home with the husband—if faced with an expensive air-sandwich like a “matchmaking service for professional gays and lesbians.” That said, if you set out to meet absolutely nobody, you couldn’t do a better job of it than sticking with your I-Know-Eggzactly-What-I’m-Looking-For strategy.

Trying to meet the “exact” woman causes you to pass up too many spicy, tender, mischievous, funny, exuberant possibilities (*these* are the young ladies who’ll end up becoming your friends and later set you up with creatures who are truly delicious). Just look for someone “intriguing” for now; stay loose, woo with wit, laugh at your foibles, open your eyes, and see lots and lots of different people. I wish you hearty good luck!

(Note: Your low-carbon Auntie Eee signing off. Though the dogs have eaten the ozone sandwiches and no “annoying” men are “constantly” hitting on me, I must say that, all in all, the greening of the Ask E. Jean column has been a success. Probably the equivalent of taking two or three hundred thousand cars off the road this year—at the very least.)

To ask a question, write to [e.jean@askjean.com](mailto:e.jean@askjean.com); to see more columns, go to [ELLE.com/magazine](http://ELLE.com/magazine). You can write with divine anonymity to E. Jean, get instant video answers, and exchange genius tips on *Advice Vixens* at [Askejean.com](http://Askejean.com).





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05.08

## BURNING UP

Madonna still has a ton of blond ambition. Not only is the music icon releasing her eleventh studio album, *Hard Candy*, she's also the coolest earth mother on the planet, from working with the HIV-afflicted in Malawi (chronicled in an upcoming documentary) to raising three children under the age of 13. What Material Girl? Certainly not Barney's' environmentally aware fashion director, Julie Gilhart, who, along with the Earth Pledge organization, persuaded more than 25 of the world's top fashion designers to create one-of-a-kind looks using organic fabrics. And ELLE has the exclusive, debuting many of the chic styles on today's biggest models. Next up, Shalom Harlow, an Earth Pledge member and a major eco-activist in her own right, poses on the white sands of Antigua in the most romantic mixed prints of the season.

Cotton-blend evening-stripe blazer, **NATHAN JENDEN**, price upon request, collection at Louis Boston, Boston. Patent vinyl bra, **DEBORAH MARQUIT**, \$175. Jeans, **J BRAND**, \$158. Felt hat, **STEPHEN JONES MILLINERY**, \$475. Pearl, diamond, and platinum chain, cameo ring, both, from **NEIL LANE JEWELRY**, prices upon request. For details, see Shopping Guide.





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Patent vinyl bra, **Deborah Marquit**, \$175.  
For details, see *Shopping Guide*.







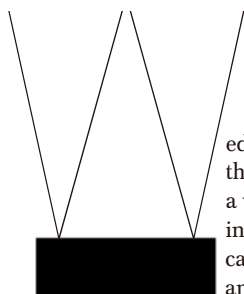


Grain de poudre waistcoat, **Dior**, \$1,270, at Dior Boutique, NYC. Silk racer-back tank top, **Phi**, \$850. Briefs, **Dolce & Gabbana**, \$85. Felt hat, **Stephen Jones Millinery**, \$475. Cameo ring, from **Neil Lane Jewelry**, price upon request. Patent leather pumps, **Dior**, \$990. *For details, see Shopping Guide.*









Wednesday, February 20, is quite possibly one of the most surreal days of my life. Things get off to a wacky start when my cabdriver—I am barreling toward JFK at some ungodly hour—insists on calling me “ma’am” throughout the journey. In an effort to generate a bit of *respek*, I tell him the purpose of my trip. “I’m off to L.A. today to interview Madonna,” I say in a manly, confident kind of way.

“That’s nice for you, ma’am,” he replies in a skeptical tone revealing that he believes me to be not just a woman, but a thoroughly deluded woman.

The surrealism continues: On the plane, I make a complete spectacle of myself by sobbing all the way through the 80-minute documentary *I Am Because We Are*. Madonna produced this devastatingly powerful film to highlight the plight of the orphaned and HIV-afflicted population of Malawi, in southeastern Africa. If her goal has always been to engage the emotions of her public, this may be Madge’s most successful venture ever.

After a recuperative nap, I plug in *Hard Candy*, Madonna’s new CD, and indulge in a session of age-inappropriate jigging. As I groove and shimmy and sing along—“My sugar is raw/sticky and sweet”—and contemplate the increasingly multifaceted tour de force that is Madonna Louise Ciccone, a serious thought occurs to me: Could it be that Madge has made the transition from diva to deity?

My admiration for La Ciccone is long-standing. Her trajectory and desire for glamour and self-expression have inspired and awed me for more than two decades. What irks some writers about Madonna—her discipline, her drive, her lack of self-destructive tendencies—is exactly what makes me love that little spitfire more and more. By clawing her way to the top, she gave me, and millions of marginalized freaks just like me, permission to claw our way to the lower half of the middle—and I, for one, am hugely grateful. In an era when downward aspiration is applauded and rewarded, Madonna’s thrusting, szooshy positivity remains an exhilarating force.

This year, Madonnaworld is reaching a bewildering apotheosis that has even die-hard Madge-ophiles like me reeling backward on our disco roller skates. In addition to her documentary, she has directed an independent movie titled *Filth and Wisdom*. Girlfriend has also become a globally respected philanthropist. One more hit song and she could beat Elvis’ record for racking up the most top-10 singles of all time. Diva to deity.

As I drive down Sunset to rendezvous with our lady of the cone bras, I realize that I am insanely nervous. Even though I have met her, albeit briefly, on a couple of occasions, I feel as if I am about to encounter God—or have a colonoscopy, or both. I try to stay calm, but it’s not easy. I am a big, screaming gay fan who, if he doesn’t get a grip on himself, runs the risk of making Kathy Bates’ character in *Misery* look like a happy, well-balanced enthusiast.

Madonna lives in an incredibly glam Gloria Swanson-esque Hollywood mansion, and when I say lives, I mean *lives!* The chicly opulent decor, the paintings (some of which, like my day, are extremely surreal), the landscaping, and the bustling retinue reveal that Mr. and Mrs. Guy Ritchie are totally large-ing it. We’re talking Duke and Duchess of Windsor.

The lady of the house appears in the doorway of her music room.

Catherine Deneuve said that as a woman ages, “*Il faut choisir entre le visage et le derrière*.” Rough translation: She has to decide between a big ass or a haggard face. Madonna never got the memo. She has both a tight face and a tight ass. She is perfection.

ELLE: My cabdriver thought I was a woman and kept calling me “ma’am.” Do I look like a woman to you?

MADONNA: No. But maybe it’s the Paul Smith shirt. [*I look down and clock my hallucinogenic art-nouveau Liberty-print button-down and realize that she may be onto something.*]

ELLE: Enough about me. Let’s talk about your outfit. I want details.

Madonna’s elegant at-home ensemble is a symphony in beige and cream: *Think Faye Dunaway in Network with a bit of Jean Harlow thrown in.*

M: The heels are Miu Miu. The blouse is Diane von Furstenburg. The cardigan is H&M, from my own collection. Undies? Can’t remember, ‘cause I always cut the tags off. The pants are from River Island, one of Lola’s [Lourdes’] favorite shops on Oxford Street. I’m having a high-low day.

ELLE: Do you ever go shopping incognito?

M: Lola likes us to do that. The incognito never really lasts very long, because everyone knows I wear baseball caps. So I guess I don’t really have an incognito.

ELLE: What’s the dynamic among your three kids?

M: Lola [age 11] rules the roost. She is extremely maternal toward David [the much talked-about Malawian toddler, age two and a half, the circumstances of whose adoption are clarified in Madge’s documentary]. He is the apple of everyone’s eye right now. Lola is in major competition with Rocco [age seven], but he’s starting to fight back. But when nobody’s looking, the two of them still creep into bed and cuddle. It’s a closet kind of love.

ELLE: Who does the disciplining between you and Guy?

M: Oh, definitely me. Guy’s a softie when it comes to our kids.

ELLE: How do you strike a balance?

M: Work is important to both of us. We have to be highly organized and navigate family responsibilities.

ELLE: When was the last time you took a family vacation?

M: Guy and I and the kids went to India over Christmas. We really got away from it all.

ELLE: Does he share your passion for Malawi?

M: Yes.

ELLE: What’s his favorite hobby?

M: Jujitsu. I don’t get it—grown men throwing each other around. But he loves it.

ELLE: What do you talk about in bed?

M: None of your business!

*Kibbitzing about her husband puts a definite twinkle in Madge’s eye.*

ELLE: Do you guys watch Catherine Tate [the groundbreaking UK comedy sensation now on BBC America]?

M: Yes. She’s brilliant. Lourdes does a great imitation of the character who keeps telling everyone she’s “not bovvered.” She likes to play the chav. [*Chav* refers to a genre of uncouth UK citizen.]

ELLE: On the topic of Brits: Why is a nice Jewish girl like Amy Winehouse covering herself in tats and dating prison inmates? Can’t you kabbalah some sense into her?

M: You better ask her. If she’s not ready, then kabbalah can’t do too much. She’s talented, but I have not been following her dramas. I don’t read the tabloids.

ELLE: Aren’t you glad you got famous before the era of self-destruction, rehab, and crotch-flashing?

M: I came on the heels of punk. There was lots of stuff going on, but there wasn’t the coverage. This new Hollywood generation is not punk rock. They are more bourgeois. It’s time to flash something new.

ELLE: Speaking of trying to get attention: You and I have both spent years trying to get our respective fathers’ attention via shock tactics. I once told my dad that instead of getting a job, I was going to sell my body on the Left Bank to rich old men [*Madge has a good chortle at this, which greatly eases my nerves*]. Needless to say, he rolled his eyes and ignored me. What’s the most insane





Silk and cashmere sweater, **Halston**, \$995. Patent vinyl bra, **Deborah Marquit**, \$175. Felt hat, **Stephen Jones Millinery**, \$475. Cameo ring, from **Neil Lane Jewelry**, price upon request. Lace-up boots, **Miu Miu**, price upon request. *For details, see Shopping Guide.*



Stretch cotton shirt,  
**Gucci**, \$595, at select  
Gucci stores nationwide.  
Patent vinyl bra, **Deborah  
Marquit**, \$175. Earrings,  
ring, both from **Neil Lane  
Jewelry**, prices upon  
request. Patent leather  
pumps, **Gucci**, \$525.  
*For details, see  
Shopping Guide.*





thing you ever said to your dad to get his attention?

M: "I'm not going to church anymore."

ELLE: Is your dad going to vote for McCain?

M: I try to stay away from political discussions with him. We agree to disagree.

*I am finally starting to relax. Madge may be a deity, but she is an interesting, cultivated, hamische kind of a deity.*

ELLE: What are you reading?

M: I'm alternating between *The Bad Girl* by Mario Vargas Llosa and *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak.

ELLE: Listening to?

M: When I'm working out, Timbaland, Britney, Kylie, Rihanna, Nelly Furtado, all the dance-hall queens. When I'm not working out, it's about movie soundtracks: Almodóvar, Nino Rota; I'm loving those guys who did the soundtrack to *Hamam*.

ELLE: When Cher works out, she watches *Cops*, allegedly.

M: I don't watch TV.

*[Madonna's chefs enter with a platter of yummy tofu desserts.]*

ELLE: Are you still macrobiotic?

M: I'm not so strict. I eat steak once in a while. And potato chips, or "crisps," as you Brits call them.

ELLE: August 16 [Madonna's fiftieth birthday]? Let's discuss. Are you mad, sad, glad, or afraid?

M: I haven't thought about it.

*Maybe I am a deranged fan who has drunk the Kool-Aid, but I actually believe her. Madge is busy. Madge has other fish to fry. And since Madge looks like a well-preserved 38, why would she wish to bum herself out by planning festivities to mark her half century?*

ELLE: Andy Warhol said, "If you can convince yourself that you look fabulous, you can save yourself the trouble of primping." Are you ever tempted to surrender to middle age and Spanx and chocolate cake?

M: Wearing Spanx is primping. Plus, I already enjoy chocolate cake. And P.S. Andy Warhol cared a lot about the way he looked. That's why he always wore those fluffy wigs.

ELLE: Let's talk about *Hard Candy*.

M: Which is your favorite track?

ELLE: I love "Dance Tonight" and "4 Minutes." My favorite is "Give It to Me." I can really see myself getting into some wild, old-school aerobics with that song.

*I flash to a memory of doing aerobics next to Madonna at some cheesy West Hollywood exercise studio in the early '80s. She wore her Ray-Bans during leg lifts. I was impressed.*

M: I'm totally getting back into those '80s exercise moves.

ELLE: Give me a couple of words to describe each of your collaborators on this record. Pharrell?

M: Smooth operator.

ELLE: Justin Timberlake?

M: Gentleman.

ELLE: Timbaland?

M: Cheshire cat.

ELLE: I'm not familiar with the process of making a record. Is it agony, or is it fun?

M: Sometimes you get stuck, and it's agony. The best songs you write in 20 minutes. There's a flow. When you start overthinking everything, you're in trouble. It can get painful.

ELLE: "Spanish Lesson" is a fierce track. Is that a euphemism for something naughty?

M: No, it's just me being silly. But maybe I will make it into a euphemism for something.

ELLE: Are any of the songs on *Hard Candy* autobiographical?

M: Not consciously or explicitly. When I write, I'm often channeling and collaging from my life without being conscious of it. Then it hits me later. Art imitates life.

ELLE: As a pop star, you have more freedom to create and evolve, I think. Serious art can get heavy and constipated. Paul Valéry apparently said, "Everything changes, except the avant-garde." Discuss.

M: I disagree. Whatever is avant-garde eventually becomes mainstream and changes the norm. Maybe avant-garde music stays the same, but avant-garde visual art and style, that's what has real influence and inevitably becomes mainstream.

ELLE: Let's talk about Malawi. *I Am Because We Are* is truly one of the most harrowing things I've seen. Was that intentional?

M: I wanted to tell the truth. Believe me, I took out some of the incredibly harrowing stuff. My goal was to make a film that would serve the interests of the people of Malawi. I think it ends on a hopeful note.

ELLE: There are so many memorable people in the movie. I'm mad for that lady in the floral muumuu who gives the slum tour.

M: Her name is Theresa. She runs a community-based program to get drugs for people with AIDS and to get the orphans—there are one million out of a population of 12 million—into school.

ELLE: Are the Malawians surprised that you are so dressed down and supercasual? Why not give them the whole Madonna treatment? Sequined corsets! *Bonjour!*

M: They are not thinking about such fripperies. And when I first went there, the Malawians had no idea who I was. It was only when the press showed up that they found out.

ELLE: How much money did you raise at the UN blowout?

*Madge and Gucci cohosted a flossy fundraiser at the UN on February 6. It was major. There were so many celebs that I thought I had wandered into Madame Tussaud's. When Rihanna did "Umbrella," TomKat got jiggy. The goody bag contained a GUCCI ♥ NY purse.*

M: About \$5.5 million.

ELLE: Mazel tov! I was very impressed that you kissed the auction's winning bidders, especially during cold and flu season.

M: I'm a bit of a germaphobe, but when people are being generous they deserve a hug and a kiss.

ELLE: What's the next step on your African journey?

M: I've planted many seeds. I'm buying land and getting permission to build a girls' school. The women will play a big role in the future and the rebirth of Malawi.

ELLE: How can ELLE readers get involved?

M: Go to the website, [Iambecauseweare.com](http://Iambecauseweare.com). We have a scholarship fund, a special-needs kids fund. There's so much to do.

This iteration of Madonna—Mother Theresa Madge—sparks another memory: I saw her at a party in the mid-'80s with her AIDS-stricken artist pal Martin Burgoyne. Martin was blighted with Kaposi's sarcoma. Back when people were reluctant to be in the same room as someone with this stigmatized disease, Madge stayed with him and held his hand all night; she was wearing a denim jacket that he had painted.

The plight of the people of Malawi and its resonance with the dark days of the AIDS epidemic have made us both a little sad. The mood shifts when we embark on a jolly discussion of the comparative merits of the C-word—yes, the one that Jane Fonda recently used on the *Today* show. Madonna the deity has not lost her bawdy sense of fun. Much of what was said is unprintable, but here are the general conclusions: Madge and I are big fans of the word. We are, however, both sensitive to the fact that, while the Brits love to sling it around like an old feather boa, it must be used with infinite caution on this side of the Atlantic.

Having clarified our position on this important issue, we shake hands and bid each other farewell. As I said, it was a surreal kind of day.







Chiffon shirt, **Francesco Scognamiglio**, \$450, collection at King of Greene Street, NYC. Patent vinyl bra, **Deborah Marquit**, \$175. Briefs, **Stella McCartney**, \$52. Felt hat, **Stephen Jones Millinery**, \$475. Vintage boa, from **The Way We Wore**, L.A. Fishnet tights, **Capezio**, \$24. For details, see Shopping Guide.









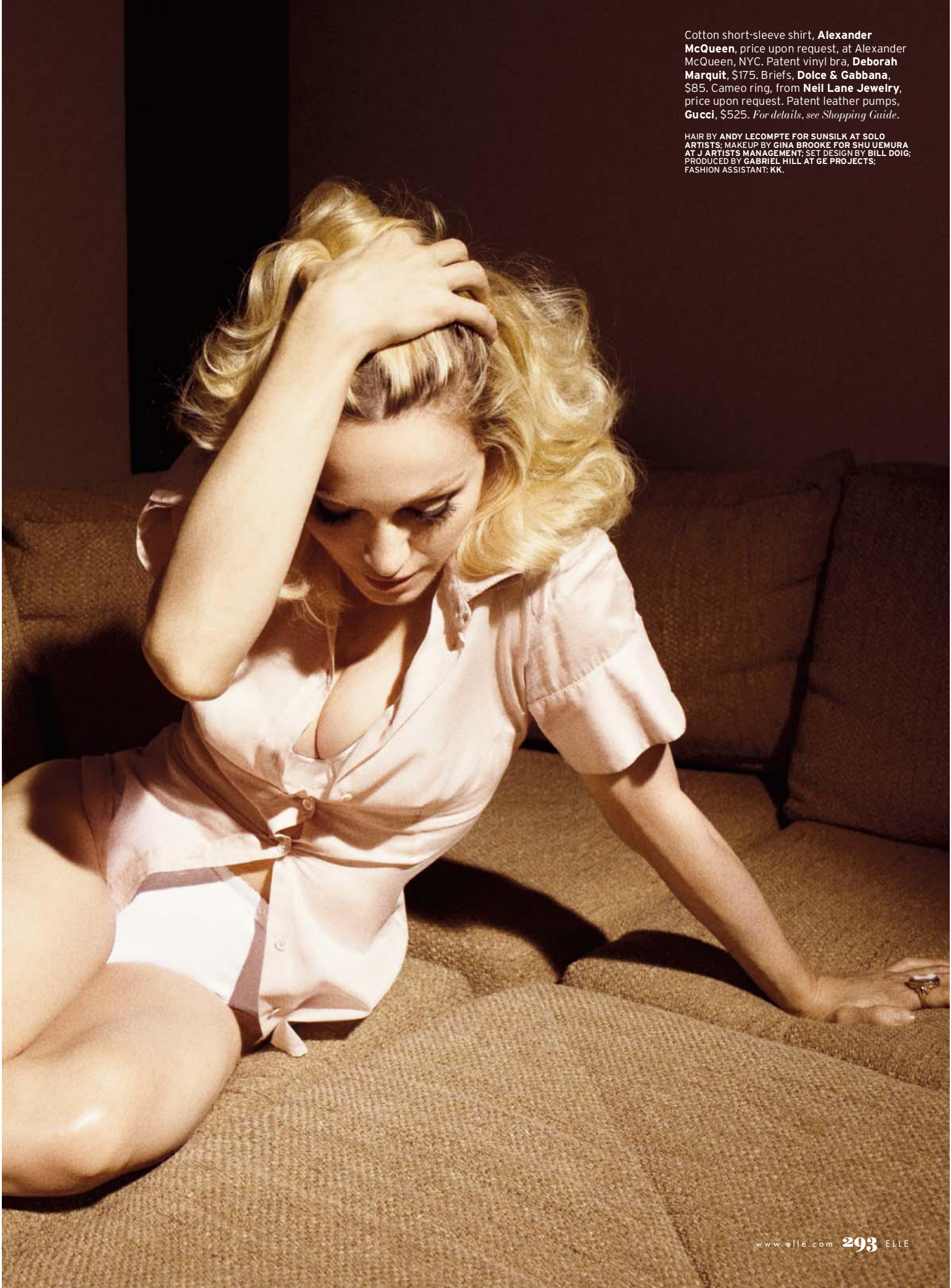
Cotton jersey T-shirt, **Neal Sperling**, \$195. Patent vinyl bra, **Deborah Marquit**, \$175. Plexiglas belt, **Yves Saint Laurent**, price upon request. Gloves, **Rodarte**, \$550. Fishnet tights (cut at ankle), **Capezio**, \$24. Patent leather pumps, **Pierre Hardy**, \$830.  
*For details, see Shopping Guide.*











Cotton short-sleeve shirt, **Alexander McQueen**, price upon request, at Alexander McQueen, NYC. Patent vinyl bra, **Deborah Marquit**, \$175. Briefs, **Dolce & Gabbana**, \$85. Cameo ring, from **Neil Lane Jewelry**, price upon request. Patent leather pumps, **Gucci**, \$525. *For details, see Shopping Guide.*

HAIR BY ANDY LECOMPTE FOR SUNSILK AT SOLO ARTISTS; MAKEUP BY GINA BROOKE FOR SHU UEMURA AT J ARTISTS MANAGEMENT; SET DESIGN BY BILL DOIG; PRODUCED BY GABRIEL HILL AT GE PROJECTS; FASHION ASSISTANT: KK.



# MODEL CITIZENS

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN  
MORE THAN 25 TOP  
READY-TO-WEAR  
DESIGNERS CREATE  
**ONE-OF-A-KIND ORGANIC  
LOOKS?** IN THIS ELLE  
EXCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE  
FASHION (FINALLY) GETS  
THE GREEN LIGHT

PHOTOGRAPHED BY ***daniel gabbay***





SHALOM HARLOW  
*in*  
MAISON MARTIN MARGIELA







DIANA DONDOE  
*in*  
DEREK LAM



ELETTRA ROSSELLINI WIEDEMANN

in

THAKOON



love my dress!" exclaimed model Julia Stegner, swinging the draped layers of her tea-stained sasawashi-and-peace-silk Donna Karan gown while singing the lyrics of her new favorite song, Sir Mix-A-Lot's "Baby Got Back."

"I think mine's organic wool!" bragged Coco Rocha. Backstage at fall's groundbreaking FutureFashion show in New York's Gotham Hall, where 29 major designers created one-of-a-kind eco looks, models were doing the unthinkable—actually asking about the clothes they were being hoisted into. "Is yours heavy? Is it paper?" asked Alyona, taking her (chemical-free) manicured hands out of the pockets of her organic silk Bottega Veneta pullover to touch her friend Suvi's Marni undyed cotton shift.

Thanks to Barneys fashion director, Julie Gilhart, who corralled a seemingly impossible group of star designers, organic fashion went from granola chic to haute couture in one night. On a wooden runway made from naturally felled Sri Lankan kumbuk trees (later to be refurbished as tables by furniture maker Tucker Robbins), a crowd of fashion's biggest names ogled sophisticated looks by the likes of Yves Saint Laurent (biograin suit), Stella McCartney (organic-cotton voile summer dress), and Calvin Klein (hemp floor-length trench). The fashion industry, long fearful of being considered hypocritical by the green community for favoring artistry over sustainability, hasn't exactly raced to embrace green design. After all, who could imagine Fendi without the furs or Hermès without the leather luxury goods? But with fashion as the second largest industrial consumer of water worldwide (behind agriculture) and cotton responsible for 25 percent of all chemical pesticide use, designers and their followers are realizing it's time to make a change. "Laura and I grew up in northern California, completely surrounded by redwoods, tide pools, mustard fields, and apple orchards. Our visual registry was created for us by our landscape," says Rodarte's Kate Mulleavy, who, along with her

sister, drives a Lexus RX Hybrid and works to recycle all of Rodarte's used paper and plastic. "It's natural to be invested in working to save those sources of inspiration," Gilhart adds. "Fashion is everywhere and we are just beginning to learn the negative effects it has on the environment; it's inevitable that fashion becomes more eco-friendly and be the New Cool."

Just how to do that has become the goal of Leslie Hoffman, executive director of Earth Pledge, a nonprofit organization that seeks to align the design world with the latest green technology, and who helmed the FutureFashion runway show. Her first step was to equip each designer with a portfolio of innovative fabrics, including banana- and pineapple-plant materials (from Southeast Asia), man-made bioplastics (the United States), wood-pulp derivatives (Austria), and, naturally, hemp (China).

"We've been through this 60-year period where design really became detached from its environmental impact," Hoffman says. "In some ways, the rediscovery of fabrics like hemp, which was originally used to make sails, is an exploration of very old processes and agricultural techniques."

With Earth Pledge board members such as Gilhart, and FutureFashion advisors Shalom Harlow and Elettra Rossellini Wiedemann on model-roundup duty, the group has made raising awareness—on the eve of New York Fashion Week, no less—seem easy. "Our goal is to show that there's a big middle ground between Birkenstocks and Birkins," says Rossellini Wiedemann (daughter of Isabella Rossellini), who will be enrolling at the London School of Economics to study issues of sustainability later this year. Certainly, the results of their efforts are already starting to show. Raf Simmons for Jil Sander did a cashmere caftan for FutureFashion and used the fabric again in his fall '08 ready-to-wear show. Calvin Klein's Francisco Costa says the project gave him "a chance to consider how innovative new textiles could be integrated into a modern lifestyle." And another designer reduced his carbon footprint by eschewing shipping and delivering his outfit to Earth Pledge via a friend already traveling to the United States. As for Thakoon Panichgul, who created a slate-gray empire-waist dress for the event, he has a newfound interest in bamboo. When asked why he chose to be a part of the show, Panichgul echoed many designers: "Because any attention to this green issue for the fashion community is a must."—WHITNEY VARGAS



From left: Denisa Dvorakova in **Burberry Prorsum**. Bette Franke in **Stella McCartney**. Kasia Struss in **Jil Sander**. Toni Garrn in **Calvin Klein**. For details, see Shopping Guide. HAIR BY RECINE AT THE WALL GROUP; MAKEUP BY DICK PAGE AT JED ROOT.



COCO ROCHA  
*in*  
DIANE VON FURSTENBERG





GUINEVERE VAN SEENUS  
*in*  
**ISABEL TOLEDO**







IRINA LAZAREANU  
*in*  
BEHNAZ SARAFPOUR



FREJA BEHA ERICHSEN  
*in*  
MICHAEL KORS





ALYONA OSMANOVA  
*in*  
BOTTEGA VENETA





SASHA PIVOVAROVA

in

THREEASFOUR



MARYNA LINCHUK

in

NARCISCO RODRIGUEZ





JESSICA STAM  
*in*  
RODARTE







CATHERINE McNEIL  
*in*  
RALPH LAUREN





LIYA KEBEDE  
*in*  
MOSCHINO VINTAGE





CAROLINE TRENTINI  
*in*  
YVES SAINT LAURENT



JULIA STEGNER  
*in*  
DONNA KARAN





NATASHA POLY  
*in*  
GIVENCHY





*Right:* Patent leather clutch, **Giorgio Armani**, \$1,395, at Giorgio Armani Boutique nationwide. Metal and satin evening clutch, **Calvin Klein Collection**, \$800, at Calvin Klein Collection, NYC. *Far right:* Aged lambskin bag, **Dior**, \$1,850, at select Dior Boutique nationwide. Suede pump, **Bottega Veneta**, \$690, at select Bottega Veneta Boutique nationwide. *For details, see Shopping Guide.*



# BALANCING ACT

GET A PREVIEW OF  
OUR PICKS FOR FALL:  
**SLOUCHY MUST-HAVE  
BAGS AND SEXY  
JEWEL-TONE HEELS**

PHOTOGRAPHED BY *siran lewin*  
SET DESIGN BY *linda heiss*







*Left:* Peep-toe pump, **Emporio Armani**, \$495, visit [emporioarmani.com](http://emporioarmani.com). Waxed leather tote, **Donna Karan Collection**, \$1,795, at Donna Karan Collection stores nationwide. *Below:* Suede boot, \$750, suede shoulder bag, \$1,395, both, **Ralph Lauren Collection**, at select Ralph Lauren stores nationwide. *For details, see Shopping Guide.*

STYLING BY ELLYN CHESTNUT AND  
NINA STERGHIOU







# SWEPT AWAY

ON ECO-ICON **SHALOM HARLOW**, GRAPHIC PRINTS, VOLUMINOUS LAYERS, AND A FEW SUSTAINABLE FABRICS ARE NEARLY AS BREATHTAKING AS NATURE'S FLAWLESS BACKDROP

PHOTOGRAPHED BY *matthew brookes*  
STYLED BY *nicolas klam*

Cream silk tulle gown, **Jean Paul Gaultier**, price upon request. Raffia and Swarovski crystal earrings, **Ohne Titel**. Sterling silver cuffs, **Robert Lee Morris**, \$350–\$495. Resin cuffs, **Chanel**, \$995 each. Leather sandals, **Paul Smith**, \$565. For details, see Shopping Guide.









*Left:* Printed silk jacket, **Balenciaga by Nicolas Ghesquière**, \$5,950, at Balenciaga Boutique, NYC. Cotton and chiffon dress, **Stella McCartney**, \$4,995. Lucite bangles, \$450 each, carved Lucite cuff, \$1,200, both, **Patricia von Musulin**. Agate cuff, **Stephen Dweck**, price upon request. Beaded necklace (around wrist), **Subversive Jewelry by Justin Giunta**, \$2,200. *Above:* Silk and cotton halterdress with satin and raffia belt, **Donna Karan Collection**, \$3,495, at Donna Karan Collection stores nationwide. Cotton T-shirt, **Edun**, \$75. Viscose blend vest, **Emporio Armani**, \$475. Black sterling chain necklace, padlock pendant necklace (around waist), both, **TEM**. Sterling silver bangle, **John Hardy**, \$495. Sterling silver tube bangles, **Frank Gehry for Tiffany & Co.**, \$550–\$675. Wood bangle, **Alexis Bittar for Michael Kors**, \$225. Lucite bangle, **Patricia von Musulin**, \$1,100. *For details, see Shopping Guide.*





KODAK BW400CN



*Left:* Silk organza dress, **Jil Sander**, \$4,580, at Jil Sander, NYC, Chicago. Cotton long-sleeve T-shirt, **Organic**, \$65. Raffia earrings, **Ohne Titel**. Silver pendant necklace, **John Hardy**, price upon request. Sterling silver cuff, **Robert Lee Morris**, \$495. Studded bangle, **Burberry Prorsum**, \$995. *Above:* Strapless wool-and-linen dress, **Osklen**, \$1,170, at Osklen, NYC. Striped hemp vest, **Proenza Schouler**, \$3,500. Pleated polyester jacket, **Pleats Please Issey Miyake**, \$390. Striped jersey cardigan, **Carolina Herrera**, \$1,190. Recycled Nigerian record-bead necklace, **Giles & Brother by Philip Crangi**, price upon request. Ebony wood necklace, **Gucci**, \$4,990. Diamond panther pendant necklace, **Carrera y Carrera**, price upon request. Stamped python cuffs, **Emporio Armani**, \$145–\$195. Resin cuffs, **Chanel**, \$995 each. *For details, see Shopping Guide.*









*Left:* Dip-dye knit dress, **Diane von Furstenberg**, \$365, similar styles at Intermix nationwide. Cotton and rayon cardigan, **Ohne Titel**, \$1,250. Recycled Nigerian record-bead necklace, **Giles & Brother by Philip Crangi**, price upon request. Aquamarine bead necklace, **Paloma Picasso for Tiffany & Co.**, \$4,600. Lucite bangles, **Patricia von Musulin**, \$450 each. Wood bangles, **R.J. Graziano**. *Above:* Silk dress, **Chloé**, \$4,775, at Chloé Boutique, Bal Harbour, FL. Striped linen-and-cotton waistcoat, **Cavern**, \$194. Link bracelets, **Giles & Brother by Philip Crangi**, \$50 each. Lucite bangle, **Patricia von Musulin**, \$450. Vintage Lucite bangle, **Erickson Beamon**, \$478. Sterling silver cuff, **Robert Lee Morris**, \$495. Feather boa, **Nina Ricci**, price upon request. *For details, see Shopping Guide.*







So there I am backstage, with my little water bottle I'd filled up and brought from home, and I suddenly notice these half-empty plastic bottles. They're scattered everywhere and overflowing the trash bin, and people have forgotten which is whose, and I'm thinking, Ohmygod. *None* of this is getting recycled. It's all headed for some landfill."

Shalom Harlow has been having these *aha!* moments since the days when a model who obsessed about the fate of a beverage container (who also toted around jars of home-brewed tea, declined to use plastic shopping bags, and genuinely fretted about the environmental impact of a last-minute flight to Paris) was considered "quaint," she says, laughing. "Definitely different, if not just plain odd."

It's been 15 years since Harlow's now-iconic almond eyes, dark froth of curls, and fluid limbs—a physiognomy so elongated, it could have originated in a fashion illustrator's sketchbook—were "discovered" at a Cure concert in Toronto. Now 34, she says the best part of achieving long-term "super" status is being able to really make things happen, most recently as an organizer of and spokesperson for the megawatt all-green fashion show sponsored by Earth Pledge, which took place during New York Fashion Week in February. (Find out more about the show on page 294.)

Cannily aware of the irony of being a powerful merchandise-moving tool—that's Harlow hiding behind a giant handbag in Valentino's spring campaign—who's also extra-sensitive to the downside of consumerism, Harlow constantly searches for ways to reconcile her work and her priorities. She turns down jobs that require what she considers an unjustifiable amount of flying and

carbon-offsets the rest; when ELLE planned this photo shoot in Antigua, it was its star who gently suggested offsetting the whole crew's flights through Carbonfund.org (which we did). And, while she misses the "grand theatrics" of the runway, skipping fashion week leaves time for earth-saving missions with ForestEthics, a foundation that goes head-to-head with logging companies that infringe upon endangered forests. At press time, she and her model-slash-photographer boyfriend, Aaron Ward, were planning a trip to document the Tar Sands of Alberta, Canada. Harlow calls this Florida-size section of the northern Boreal forest, which is currently being cleared for mining and drilling, "the ground zero of environmental disasters."

As for that water-bottle revelation? It spawned a rather lofty dream-in-progress: an all-green fashion week, complete with biodiesel generators, recycling bins, and energy-efficient lighting, something Harlow swears isn't just a pie-in-the-sky fantasy. "One of the cool things about fashion is how fast it moves," she says enthusiastically. "Look at Earth Pledge. The more designers order those eco-friendly fabrics, the more textile mills will make them. Within a matter of years, the whole industry could be rethought from a sustainable viewpoint."—MAGGIE BULLOCK

Striped cotton dress, **Rossella Tarabini for Anna Molinari**, \$650. Silk jacket, **MaxMara**, price upon request, at select MaxMara Boutiques nationwide. Drusy necklace with leather cord, **Stephen Dweck**, \$1,085. Coil belt, **Subversive Jewelry by Justin Giunta**, price upon request. Sterling silver bamboo cuff, \$850, textured silver cuff, \$695, both, **John Hardy**. Sterling silver tube bangles, **Frank Gehry for Tiffany & Co.**, \$550–\$675. Wood bangles, **Alexis Bittar for Michael Kors**, \$225 each. Sterling silver cuffs, **Robert Lee Morris**, \$350–\$495. Large Lucite bangle, **Patricia von Musulin**, \$1,100. For details, see *Shopping Guide*.

HAIR BY DENNIS GOTS FOR REDKEN AT MAGNETNY.COM; MAKEUP BY ERIC POLITO FOR DIOR BEAUTY AT MAGNETNY.COM; PRODUCED BY LOUISE SANDIFORD AT CARIBBEAN CREWS; FASHION ASSISTANT: MALINA JOSEPH. SPECIAL THANKS TO ANTIGUA YACHT CLUB MARINA RESORT



## TRANSFORMER

CONTINUED FROM page 182

household, but it's like, Iron Man ain't callin' the shots. I know where the soundest mind in my world is [i.e., the Missus]. But as far as thinking I had any [special appeal for women]...my thing was, I went to acting camp, and I was 12 or 13 and the girls were 17 so I was used to being more of a mascot figure. And the next thing I know, it was a couple of years later and I was in long-term relationships."

"You never had a pick-up artist phase?" I say. "Like when you were 21 and doing *The Pick-Up Artist*?"

"No. I had largely unfortunate and occasionally wonderful philandering moments while I was in long-term relationships."

"In the *Iron Man* comic books, Tony Stark is deeply attracted to Pepper, who works for him, but he feels it would be unfair to act on it because he could drop dead at any time. In the movie, Gwyneth Paltrow plays Pepper. Do you get to have a moment with her?"

"Gwyneth felt that you shouldn't blow that [platonic relationship], and I just wanted to have a scene where I was making out with Gwyneth Paltrow, so it was a big point of contention. I won't say exactly how it wound up."

"Back to sex for a minute."

"Yes, back to sex if you would."

"In one of the films you made with James Toback, *Two Girls and a Guy* [1998], you do get a moment with Heather Graham. I'd say it's right up there with a wheelchair'd Jon Voight pleasuring Jane Fonda in *Coming Home* as the hottest, and most unmanly, sex in American film."

"Yeah, bit of a turnaround. I remember that day. We're doing this scene, and she's basically masturbating me, and I'm giving her oral sex for the better part of two or three hours. Here's what I thought: I'm really hot and bothered. I hope she's not uncomfortable. Oh, well, the day's over. And then I ran into her a year later, and she was like, 'Why didn't you just call me?' It was like a Woody Allen moment. She looked at me, like, *Dummy!* I was like, 'Well, you were wearing three pairs of underwear.' She was like, 'What did you think I was going to do?' It was fantastic, but to tell you the truth, I'm more likely to want to work with Heather Graham now, when I'm happily married, than if she and I had gone and done something seedy."

"Does the goat boy still live?" This requires some backstory: In the '93 political-documentary-cum-personal-confessional *The Last Party*, Downey explains that he contains within himself a "good boy" and a "goat boy" who lives only for instant gratification. "If you repress the goat," he says rather chillingly, "then he'll nail you."

"Yeah, to me, the goat boy came out this morning. I dropped my kid off at school, and I was listening to Toots and the Maytals' 'Funky Kingston' in the car. Ah, dude! I'm like this half-gray-haired guy pulling out of a private school parking lot, and I have it cranked up, and, God, I was on one. It's 8:38 in the morning and other people are just kind of groaning on their way to work, and I am on fire and bopping. Now when the shadow comes out, he's just the guy who wants to..."

"Rock out in the car."

"Yeah, he just wants to do something for a second. It doesn't have to blow any walls off. It doesn't have to end in handcuffs. It just has to be unbridled for a second." ●

## THE LOST BOY

CONTINUED FROM page 243

however, most are less strident than their acolytes might realize. As the recognition of autism's heterogeneity has grown (the new buzzword in the field is *autisms*, plural), scientists are coming around to the idea that collaboration with each other and, importantly, with parents, is the only way to unravel autism's mysteries. By listening to parents and then studying their concerns, calcified views about autism—that regression didn't exist, that bad parenting was to blame—have already crumbled.

The AS-funded project that Bob Wright describes most excitedly is IAN, or the Interactive Autism Network, an Internet database that parents can access to enter information about their child's condition. This information is then available to scientists, free of charge. They can use it to investigate what type of research should be done, they can employ the actual data in studies, and, perhaps most importantly, they can use IAN to help locate research subjects, reducing what had once been one of the most time-consuming and costly parts of their work. "The only people who really know what the spectrum of autism is like is the parents," Goldstein says. And because autism is so varied, "you can't just talk to one or two. So that's why we're talking to 21,000 to find out what's going on."

One area where science is already starting to back up parents' hunches is immunity. Many parents have long held that their child's abnormal immune system somehow played a role in their autism. Recent studies have shown that children on the spectrum are more likely to come from families with a history of immune disorders, and many have unusual immune profiles. Other research has found that a subset of children with autism actually may have improved functioning when they have a fever or infection. And two preliminary studies by Judy Van de Water, PhD, an immunologist with UC Davis' Department of Internal Medicine, suggest that in some cases, an immune disorder in the mother during gestation may have been a precipitating factor.

In the first study, Van de Water and her team found that a subset of mothers of children with autism, particularly those with the regressive form, carried an immune marker indicating their bodies may have mounted an immune response against their baby's brain tissue during gestation. She did not find these markers in any of the mothers of healthy children or those with other developmental delays. In the next study, the team injected pregnant rhesus monkeys with these immune markers. The baby monkeys developed odd stereotyped behaviors and hyperactivity—hallmarks of autism. When Van de Water shared her findings at a recent meeting of a parents organization, the group was refreshingly receptive, she says. "I think we're starting to lose some of that hard-core, 'I know it's the vaccines,' and accepting that, at least in some kids, there are other avenues to look at."

By the time Katie spoke at the NAA last fall, she and her parents had reconciled. Bob and Suzanne were seated in the front row during Katie's speech, Suzanne openly crying as Katie talked about Christian. Katie says they made up after she wrote an apology letter on the NAA website. "There's no two ways about it, I was just wrong," she says. "I came to understand very quickly that people were offended who I never meant to offend. [The apology] helped my par-

ents understand that I never would disparage volunteers and the organization."

Bob is now philosophical about the rancor: "Katie wants to be closely aligned with a group of parents whose children have very similar medical circumstances as Christian. And that's understandable," he says. "She would like us to do a lot more to help that group than we're presently doing. And I'm committed to helping that group, but I just can't do it fast enough to make her feel that we're really gonna change that situation around tomorrow."

The autism story is moving so fast it's hard for anyone to keep up. In March, news broke of a government concession in vaccine court. Sealed court documents were leaked to the press about Hannah Poling, a Georgia girl who in 2000, after her routine 18-month immunizations, stopped talking and walking and was diagnosed as autistic. It was later determined she had a rare mitochondrial disorder, a metabolic problem that interferes with her ability to supply her body and brain with energy, which the vaccines apparently exacerbated.

Whether immunizations or thimerosal were the triggering factor for Hannah's developmental problems is unknown, and it's also unclear whether she would have remained healthy if she hadn't been vaccinated. When a child is known to have a mitochondrial disorder, pediatricians generally still recommend immunization because getting an infection like measles or flu can cause the same neurological and physical problems that Hannah experienced after vaccination. Julie Gerberding, director of the CDC, has stated that this case does not mean that vaccines cause autism. "That is a complete mischaracterization of the findings of the case and a complete mischaracterization of any science that we have at our disposal today," she says.

Though there is very little published data on mitochondrial disorders and autism, some preliminary research suggests that children with autism may be more likely to suffer from mitochondrial dysfunctions than children in the general population. Informal studies have found unusual metabolic profiles in anywhere from 5 to 20 percent of kids on the spectrum. Katie says that Christian was diagnosed at the Cleveland Clinic as being one of those children who has some metabolic abnormalities.

After the story of the Poling case was picked up by the major news organizations, Katie and her peers were elated. "There's no going back after this court case," she giddily told me. "This will be looked upon as the biggest precedent in the history of autism." She was inspired enough, in fact, to make an overture to her parents' charity, dashing off an e-mail to Geraldine Dawson, PhD, the new chief science officer at AS. "[AS] has got to get on board because the train is leaving the station," she wrote. "This is why we need immediate environmental research.... What are you guys waiting for?"

Dawson, for her part, seemed to get the message. "I do think this case is important in that it raises a question about how we can identify children who might be vulnerable," she said over the phone, noting that AS already had mitochondrial disorder studies in its portfolio but admitting that there has been a "strong focus" on genetics. "I think it will motivate more research on this question, and certainly at Autism Speaks we're interested in a wide range of environmental factors, including vaccines." It's unlikely to be the end of the debate, but it's a beginning. ●

## THE BELIEVERS

CONTINUED FROM page 272

At this point, Anna says she was giving serious thought to leaving the FBI. "I had no idea what I was getting into," she says. "Here I was, getting knocked to the ground by the NYPD, thrown in a van, having an eco-terrorist threaten to kill me. I felt like I was in over my head and that no one was watching out for me." The FBI asked her to stay on the job and to focus on McDavid. They also transferred her from Miami to Philly, where she met her handler, Special Agent Ricardo Torres.

She and Torres bonded immediately. "There were other agents there responsible for the investigation," Anna says, "but his job was to keep me alive." She spoke to Torres at least once a day; Torres was impressed by Anna's work and quickly came to trust her. "She was so young, and she wasn't an agent," he says, "but everything she said would happen, happened. I was able to verify every bit of information she passed on to us." Anna, meanwhile, trusted Torres so completely she revealed facts about herself she'd never told anyone: She'd been a victim of sexual assault in college. "Torres was there for me," she remembers. "Toward the end, [he] had arguments with agents about my safety, how far things would go before the whole thing was called off. He was the only one who had my back the whole time." A big reason she stuck with the work, and didn't bail at this point, Anna says, was because of Torres.

McDavid, perhaps feeling rebuffed by Anna, avoided her for the next several months. Claiming he'd hopped the wrong train, he failed to show up at Feral Visions, a green utopian gathering in southeastern Tennessee, where attendees camp out, use compost toilets, forage for food, even start fires by rubbing sticks together. (In one comical episode, Anna saved the day under heavy rain by sneaking in fire-starting sticks bought at Wal-Mart; Weiner hailed her as "the Wilderness Fire-starting Goddess" and passed along news of Anna's prowess to McDavid.) McDavid also failed to invite Anna to a Philadelphia music festival that he attended with Weiner and Jenson. It was at this event, Anna alleges, that Eric discussed plans with the other two to make "big booms" everywhere (Weiner found the word *bombstoo* scary, Anna said). This was seen by the FBI as the first initiation of members into a terrorist "cell." Soon, though, McDavid sent Anna an e-mail pouring out his feelings:

*Hey, what's up? Feelin', I don't know, nostalgic, I guess. Feel like writin'. Totally miss you. You're never far from my thoughts or heart. Guess I've been fighting that last part a bit. Okay, a lot. I truly value the time that I've been able to spend with you.... I can still remember your voice, your smile, and that last embrace in Philly. Giggly chills. Don't mean to trip you out. It's just the way I feel, and it feels good to get it out....*

*Much love, me.*

Anna showed the e-mail to agents, who presented her with a seven-page psychological manual on how to handle McDavid. "They said if he makes another advance, what you need to say to him is to calm him, to mollify him, is that we need to put the mission first. There's time for romance later."

Her relationship with McDavid was of constant concern to the FBI; Anna, clearly insulted, conjectures it's because she's female. "I think

they thought I was weak. They kept saying, 'He keeps coming at you,' assuming that I would eventually fold, that I didn't have the balls or the fortitude to resist him. I kept telling [the agents] over and over, It's not gonna happen."

When a relationship between informant and subject crosses a line into intimacy, it often leads to small deceptions, jeopardizing the necessary transparency with law enforcement. While Anna was able to fend off McDavid's attentions, she admits that she and Weiner became something "like sisters" over the several weeks she spent in Philly. "It made the job a lot harder. She invited me to an art show of hers. She didn't invite anyone in her family, just me, and I went not as an undercover agent but as a friend." On tape, Anna actually asks Weiner if she's "getting cold feet." "And I was sincerely hoping that she would just pull out of it, stay with her family and move back to New York. But she was determined to go," Anna says.

The cell spent Thanksgiving at McDavid's home while his parents were away, discussing their various roles. Weiner was responsible for tactical materials: the equipment, such as a hot plate, stuff for a chemistry lab, and bomb-making books, including *The Poor Man's James Bond*, which she'd bought with her mother's credit card. Jenson's job was to coach the group in "stealthlike ninja tactics," Anna recalls, laughing. "That was his role, to teach us all how to be ninjas." Anna, the medic, was to get medical supplies, easily purchased at Whole Foods.

She was also asked to track down bomb recipes. "I go to the FBI with this, and they said, Well, of course we're not going to give you bomb recipes that actually work, so they gave me about half a dozen recipes that were all missing components—something that would smoke and flash." One of the recipes was similar to Timothy McVeigh's, an ammonium nitrate bomb minus the fertilizer.

Anna searched for a place where they could work and scored a two-bedroom cabin in woodsy Dutch Flat. The FBI paid the rent on the place for the month of January, which she explained away as money she'd earned stripping in college. Collecting the collective in one place presented more of a challenge, however, and after various delays Anna agreed to drive Weiner and Jenson cross-country. The FBI gave her a government-issue '96 Chevy Lumina wired with every high-tech gizmo imaginable (she claimed that her own car had broken down). "They could track me anywhere. They could spot me in a helicopter. That's how seriously the government took this case," Anna says.

Through blizzards and over icy roads, the three drove 20 hours a day. Anna did most of the driving, anxious about allowing Jenson and Weiner to operate the teched-out vehicle, with the recording switch on the driver's side door. During the ride, Jenson and Weiner discussed plans and targets, all of it taped. "They talked about blowing up cell phone towers and a Wal-Mart," Anna insists—conversations that could contradict the notion that she and McDavid were running the show.

The group arrived in Dutch Flat and moved into a cabin wired and ready for surveillance. Cameras and recorders were planted in the home's public spaces—the reason Anna slept out on the couch, in the living area, while the others rotated bedrooms. The FBI set up camp in a trailer a ways down the dirt road, near a volunteer fire station. The cabin was hidden complete-

ly behind the mighty spruces and redwoods. "I had five minutes to save my own life," Anna says, as we walk around the area, thick with dry pine needles that could all too easily catch fire. "And there was snow. The driveway was tricky that time of year."

One afternoon, Weiner called Anna back to one of the bedrooms. "Anna," she sang, happily, "I have something for you...." Anna strolled back to find the three of them grinning, Weiner holding a spider the size of her hand. "Look!" Weiner squealed, shoving it in Anna's face. Deathly afraid of spiders ("And they knew it, too"), Anna let out a scream. The agents could hear it but couldn't see what was happening.

Torres ordered everyone out to the SUVs. He pulled out his gun. "He hears this scream, and he thinks I'm being murdered. He thinks my head is rolling on the floor," Anna says. Without missing a beat, she ran out to the front room, where the cameras would show she was safe, and yelled, "That's the biggest fucking spider I've ever seen!"

It stopped Torres, SUV lights flashing, just in time. Anna admits it was good to know her handlers were on their toes, but had their command station been any closer, the investigation would have been over.

Despite the fact that the group had thus far been short on motivation—Anna admitting on tape that Jenson and Weiner had a tendency to "dillydally" and that the drug of choice among the group was marijuana—the team now "moved fast," Anna says.

Cell phone towers make ideal terror targets because, as noted eco-activist Derrick Jensen, one of McDavid's admitted influences, stated in a well-distributed interview, "You can't make a moral argument for leaving a cell tower up. You aren't going to kill people by taking it out. On the other hand, cell towers kill between five and 50 million migratory songbirds every year." McDavid, Anna says, had also talked up targeting what he called the "Tree Factory," or the Institute of Forest Genetics (IFG), responsible for the genetic development of disease-resistant trees. Allowing the government to manufacture trees would put nature's "real" trees in danger, given their contribution to capitalist growth—and the risk that these alien trees might overtake the native stock.

The group also scouted the Nimbus Dam, which holds back Lake Natoma, a 7,000-acre watershed. Gazing up at the 87-foot-tall, 1,093-foot-wide wall of concrete, the group agreed that, if Nimbus were even a possibility, they'd have to test one of their bombs on concrete first. A lot of it. The dam might have made a good ELF target—because blowing up its gates would actually not result in much death or destruction to the city 24 miles below. Jeff McCracken, a spokesperson for the dam, confirms that the water would just "trickle" down the American and Sacramento Rivers, though U.S. Attorney McGregor Scott would later claim, with much bravado, that thousands of lives had been saved by the FBI's investigation, and that if the cell-mates had succeeded in their plans to implode Nimbus it would have made "what happened in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina look like a Sunday pancake breakfast."

The group set about making bombs in a wooded area beside the cabin. On December 22, Anna's FBI status was elevated further so she could perform OIA, or Otherwise Illegal Activity, and tape the bomb-making sessions. They tried recipes widely available in arsonists' hand-



books—variations on salt and bleach, petroleum jelly and powdered sugar, plumber's putty, battery acid and those trick candles that don't blow out. The standard bomb: a milk jug filled with a gas-soaked rag. Throw in a cigarette until it burns down and catches. *Boom!* "These are the things you fall back on when the sexier bombs don't work," Anna says.

The group bickered over targets and whether to credit ELF with the attack (doing so can carry a higher penalty). The cell members also butted heads over what Anna says McDavid called "collateral damage"—those who die as a result of just being there, in the wrong place at the wrong time. Weiner and Jensen didn't want to risk any fatalities, despite Anna's vocal frustration with their reluctance, the tapes show. McDavid remained silent throughout, until asked his opinion: "Well, if it happens, it happens. It's collateral damage."

A couple of unsettling incidents put already frazzled nerves on edge. On January 11, Anna was pulled over by a California highway patrol officer after rolling through a stop sign on the way to the cabin. "The whole cell was pissed at me," she recalls. "How could you be so stupid, getting pulled over so close to where we are?" they fumed. "The cops will be able to tie us to shit that goes down." The next day, while McDavid was riding shotgun in Anna's car, a recording device tumbled out from under the glove compartment. McDavid picked it up. With typical alacrity, Anna muttered something about the car being a piece of junk, and told him to stuff it back in the glove compartment, which McDavid did. Complicating things, Anna says that during this time, McDavid's interest in her, once seemingly dampened, had picked up.

The infighting culminated in a huge argument the group had that night when a bomb-making experiment fizzled. The tapes clearly present a group on edge. As Anna and Weiner shout over each other, McDavid tries to mediate the situation. Jensen says next to nothing:

M: Take it down a few notches and relax and chill out and maybe come back and chitchat later; that's totally okay.

W: You know, we can all just chill out for the night, like, shit broke down tonight; we, like, stress levels have gone up and fucking down, we've all been tested today, and everyone, I know every single one of our heart rates have been, like, jolted today. Maybe we could all just breathe. I can make pasta.

A: Tomorrow, what were we planning on doing tomorrow? Are we still planning on doing anything tomorrow? Or should I just stop talking about plans?

M: Hmmmm.

W: I would love it if you stopped talking.

A: I would love it if you guys followed a plan! How about that?

When asked about that night, McDavid describes Anna's "meltdown": "She basically had a tizzy fit when the mixture didn't set, kicking at pebbles, yelling, 'Fuck! I'm so fucked!' over and over. Wren and Zach and I are just kind of looking at each other, like, 'What's going on?'" he remembers. "She's flipping out."

He realizes now that, because the project failed, there was no physical evidence of a bomb. And she was running out of time.

After Anna left, "me and Wren smoked a bowl," McDavid recalls. "We needed to take a big time out, see where everyone was when things calmed down." Anna returned from a

two-hour walk, and McDavid suggested that they start fresh the next day, shop for more supplies and try to build something they could test. McDavid offered Anna one of the bedrooms, suggesting that she might feel more relaxed if she had her own space. But Anna insisted on sleeping on the couch for one more night.

Anna had, in fact, left the group to discuss the situation with Torres and the agent in charge of the operation. Arriving at the command center crying and shaking, she insisted she couldn't continue much longer, that the stress level was too high. She reminded the agents about what had happened with the tape recorder that fell into McDavid's hands, and reminded Torres of her history with sexual assault. "I was experiencing some kind of flashback, to being in a situation with a man who wouldn't leave me alone."

Anna was done.

The agents assured her they would make the arrests the following morning.

That night, as Anna slept, she says she was awakened by her cell phone, in her pocket, vibrating against her thigh. Once awake, she later testified she saw McDavid standing over her, waving a knife. "Sorry," she alleges he muttered, and then he returned to bed. Checking her cell phone, the text, a message from Torres, read *WAKE UP*. She went back to sleep, albeit fretfully.

The next morning, Friday, January 13, the group went shopping for more bomb supplies. McDavid had left the K-Mart with Anna. Jensen and Weiner were still inside the store. "I leaned back on the hood of the car. It was a pretty warm day for January, and I was just chillin', enjoying the sun," McDavid recalls, "and I heard the locks on the door go click, and then click again, locking or unlocking, and locking or unlocking again, I didn't know. Anna had gotten in the car and was on her cell phone."

As Jensen and Weiner approached the car, two black Suburbans and two black SUVs pulled up, surrounding McDavid, and within seconds, men pointing AR-15s, in shirts with JTTF printed across the chests, were shouting, "Get on the ground. Get on the fucking ground. Get on the fucking ground *now!*"

"Anna is still inside the car and I'm asking myself, Why aren't they worried about her, why are they leaving her alone? And that's when it hit me," McDavid says. "That's when I knew."

McDavid was handcuffed, as were Jensen and Weiner. Pulling McDavid to a standing position, they searched through the pockets of his cargo pants, McDavid realized later, for a handcuff key. Anna remained in the car.

The three were transported in separate squad cars. According to police reports, Jensen asked the agents, "Are you friends of Anna's?"

As news of the arrest spread, ELF and ALF groups rallied to support the cause of all three, running pictures of Anna on their websites and outing her as an informant. But Weiner quickly turned. In exchange for testimony about McDavid, she admitted guilt to a lesser charge of general conspiracy. Six months later, Jensen made the same deal with prosecutors. After they flipped, they were pilloried as snitches—worse than informants, if that's possible—and green groups withdrew all support.

McDavid, meanwhile, spent a year and a half in a 7-by-11-foot cell in solitary confinement awaiting trial on charges of conspiracy to commit arson against government property. He is

surprisingly chipper, given his long isolation, like only those who are sustained by a belief in their moral rectitude can be. He says he never threatened to kill Anna—"I would never hurt *anyone*"—and denies the knife-wielding incident, as it's come to be called, ever happened. He has asked to take a polygraph, though the results are inadmissible in court. "Anything. You can inject me with that truth serum; that never happened." (The FBI was unable to provide video of the event nor could they find the "hunting knife.") A sticking point with the jury was McDavid's seeming indifference to related fatalities: "When I was discussing 'collateral damage' with the group, that was a philosophical discussion," says McDavid, arguing that he was making the same case for unintentional loss of life in the war for the environment as President Bush has, many times, for the unintentional loss of life in Iraq.

McDavid's attorney, Mark Reichel, who has defended environmental activists before, fought the conspiracy charges based on the term's legal definition (conspiracy must involve at least two individuals, neither of them government agents). He also tried to prove his client was "entrapped"—in effect, goaded and given logistical support by Anna, and otherwise not "predisposed" to carry out the bombings. Anna was violating the law left and right, maintains Reichel. Guidelines for undercover work are clear: Agents cannot lead, push, cajole, or manufacture—"She admitted [she knew] that on the stand," Reichel says. "What about the part on the tape where she says, 'We need to stick to a fucking plan!' What about that?" But, he adds, it's not her fault. "She didn't know what she was doing. This girl, Anna or whatever, she just wanted to do a good job. It was the FBI's responsibility, when they put her to work, to make sure she knew what she was doing, or, if not, assume the risk when you put someone that novice in such a legally complex situation."

Under cross-examination by Reichel, Torres admitted he hadn't read all of the literature on informants; nor could he recall any specifics about the Attorney General's guidelines regarding political protests. (The prosecutorial team insists that Torres read a condensed version of the document—and besides, they're only guidelines, not laws.)

"If this case teaches one lesson," Reichel says, "it's that's we are at the point where the government can say whatever the fuck they want. Do whatever the fuck they want. *Whatever* the fuck they want."

Still, the jury voted to convict on September 27, 2007, and at press time the three defendants are still awaiting sentencing. Reichel believes the prosecution will ask for the maximum in both cases: 20 years for McDavid, five for Jensen and Weiner. Anna says that Jensen is currently delivering pizza in Washington State and Weiner is living at home with her mother in New York.

Jensen's lawyer did not return calls, but Weiner's attorney (and cousin), Jeff Weiner, expressed reluctance to comment on the case. "She's scared to death of going to prison," he says. "She's a naive girl who got involved in something she shouldn't have, she accepts responsibility for her actions, and she knows what she did is wrong." Still, he continues, there are very troubling issues in the case. "This is as extreme a case of pushing as I've ever seen. This girl, Anna-Lauren was completely enamored of her. She was like the sister she never had. This is a very disturbing case."

McDavid is optimistic about his appeal. "I

won't be here long," he says. As for Anna, "she's got her own karma and it's gonna bite her so big. She's dealing with her own crap. She's gotta live with herself."

Four months after the guilty verdict, juror Diane Bennett was happy to hear from me, she says, "because I've been bothered by this ever since that day." Bennett was so upset by the judgment that she marched right out to local camera crews. "I said the FBI was an embarrassment," she says, as other jurors scrambled to unload similar opinions. "I hope he gets a new trial. I'm not happy with the one he got."

Bennett and most of the other jurors struggled with the entrapment issue but said the judge's instructions were confusing. Bennett says it was clear from the start that acquittal was not an option. "There were several on the jury who simply would not acquit, and said so. Our only choices were a hung jury or a conviction. People were tired," she says. "We wanted to go home." Still, in spite of her regret over the outcome, Bennett credits Anna with tremendous fortitude and smarts. "She was the brains of the whole outfit. The FBI didn't know what they were doing. She was very, very bright, brave, and motivated. I couldn't have the courage to do anything even remotely like this. I can't even imagine the stress."

Since the trial, Anna has consulted for the FBI on agent training, though she no longer works undercover herself—for now. Torres, for his part, says the agency would be lucky to have her back, once she finishes her education—a bachelor's degree is required to be an agent. However, he adds, "I think she wants to move on. Understandable, after what she's been through."

Anna says she'd someday like to be a professor—something in social studies or international relations—and is currently trying to finish school, reestablish relationships with family members and friends, even date. I work my way around to asking her about whether she feels bad about what happened to her one-time "comrades." "I'm a big believer in personal responsibility," she says without hesitation. "People make choices. If you want to protest consumerism, or destruction of the planet, don't drink Coke. Ride your bike. Don't eat meat or wear fur. These people chose to make a bomb and blow up government property, and now they are paying the price for that choice."

But then, in a singular reflective moment after I've told her about McDavid's diminished appearance following his hunger strike, she admits she feels bad for his family. "I would see them in court, and I remember McDavid talking about how close he was with his family. Compared to the rest of us [in the cell], he had it great, family-wise. They're nice people." She knows his parents will pay whatever it costs and do whatever they can do to get their son acquitted. I point out that this is what parents do. She says she knows. "But I still feel bad," she says, her voice trailing off.

Bennett, the juror, tells me that the foreman, a male in his fifties, "teared up" before he had to deliver the verdict. "In my mind, these were just young people who got carried away. People whose hearts were in the right place. I mean," she pauses, "you know, at least someone is trying to take care of our world and our environment."

## COVER

**Dress**, \$7,435, **gloves**, \$695, by *Chanel*, at select Chanel Boutique nationwide, call 800-550-0005. **Hat** by *Stephen Jones Millinery*, \$475, visit stephenjonesmillinery.com. **Earrings** by *Neil Lane Jewelry*, at Neil Lane (L.A.), call 310-275-5015. **Tights** by *Fogal*, \$43, at Fogal (NYC), call 212-355-3254.

## FASHION NINA

**Page 98: Chain**, \$6,875, **cuff**, \$9,615, by *Toby Pomeroy*, visit tobypomeroy.com. **Gown, coat** by *Go Green Go* by 3.1 Phillip Lim, at 3.1 Phillip Lim (NYC), call 212-334-1160. **Clutch** by *Diane von Furstenberg*, at Diane von Furstenberg (NYC). **Flat** by *Repetto x Earnest Sewn*, at the Earnest Sewn Co. (NYC), call 212-242-3414. **Pants** by *Stella McCartney*, at Stella McCartney (NYC). **Page 100: Sets** by *Bella Bliss*, call 866-846-5295 or visit bellabliss.com. **T-shirt** by *Childish Clothing*, call 877-5-CHILDISH. **Clog** by *Stella McCartney*, at Stella McCartney (NYC, L.A.), call 212-255-1556 or visit stellamccartney.com.

## ELLE FASHION: THE LOOK

**Page 109: Dress**, \$15,000, **belt** by *Balmain*, collection at Jeffrey (NYC), Intermix (NYC). **Sandals** by *Giuseppe Zanotti for Balmain*, visit giuseppezanottidesign.com. **Bangles** by *Alexis Bittar*, at Alexis Bittar (NYC). **Cuff** by *Marni*, at Marni (NYC, Costa Mesa, L.A.). **Page 110: Bag** by *Fendi*, call 800-FENDI-NY. **Slingback** by *Christian Louboutin*, at Christian Louboutin Boutique nationwide. **Bikini** by *GapBody*, call 800-GAP-STYLE or visit gapbody.com. **Tank** by *525 America*, visit 525america.com.

## ELLE FASHION: TRENDS AND ACCESSORIES

**Page 112: Bags** by *Fendi*, \$6,030 each, call 800-FENDI-NY. **Watch** by *Swatch*, at Swatch stores nationwide, call 866-382-4701. **Dress** by *Emilio Pucci*, visit emiliopucci.com. **Pants** by *Balmain*, visit intermixonline.com. **Shoe** by *Donald J. Pliner*, call 888-307-1630. **Bag** by *Roger Vivier*, \$15,900, call 212-861-5371. **Shoe** by *Prada*, call 888-977-1900. **Page 114: Bracelet** by *Bulgari*, at Bulgari stores nationwide, visit bulgari.com. **Shorts** by *Lucky Brand Jeans*, at Lucky Brand Jeans stores nationwide. **Bra, boy shorts** by *Intimissimi*, call 800-888-8200 or visit victoriassecret.com. **Top** by *Gap*, call 800-GAP-STYLE or visit gap.com. **Jumpsuit, tunic** by *Roberto Cavalli*, at Roberto Cavalli Boutique nationwide or visit robertocavalli.com. **Page 116: Bag** by *Fendi*, at Fendi Boutique nationwide. **Bag** by *Hollywood*, at Hollywood (NYC). **Skirt** by *Donna Karan Collection*, call 866-240-4700. **Dress** by *Carolina Herrera*, call 212-944-5757. **Page 120: Rings** by *House of Holland*, call 646-654-0156 or visit sevennewyork.com. **Bag** by *Burberry*, \$22,000, visit burberry.com. **Skirt** by *Harmon*, at Oak (Brooklyn), call 718-782-0521 or visit oaknyc.com. **Dress, belt** by *D&G*, at D&G Boutique (NYC). **Belt** by *Etro*, at Etro (NYC, Manhasset, NY; Coral Gables, FL; Las Vegas; Beverly Hills), visit etro.it. **Shirt** by *Maison Martin Margiela*, call 949-497-1212 or visit anastasiasausa.net. **Page 122: Necklace** by *Louis Vuitton*, \$10,570, call 866-VUITTON. **Page 124: Bag** by *Fendi*, at Fendi Boutique nationwide. **Page 126: Wedge** by *Fendi*, at Fendi Boutique nationwide. **Bag** by *Roger Vivier*, \$7,300, call 212-861-5371. **Clutch** by *Stella McCartney*, at Stella McCartney (NYC; West Hollywood, CA), call 212-255-1556. **Page 128: Ring** by *Suzanne Felsen*, \$5,900, at Suzanne Felsen (L.A.), call 323-653-5400. **White gold watch**, \$98,000, **rose gold watch**, \$13,500, by *IWC*, call 800-432-

9330. **Pendant** by *Cathy Waterman*, \$19,650, visit twistonline.com. **Bowl** by *Michael Aram*, call 866-792-ARAM or visit michaelaram.com.

## ELLE SHOPS

**Page 141: Cuff** by *John Hardy*, call 888-838-3022. **Skirt** by *Etro*, at Etro (NYC, Manhasset, NY; Coral Gables, FL; Las Vegas; Beverly Hills), call 212-317-9096. **Sandals** by *Cesare Paciotti*, at Cesare Paciotti (NYC, L.A.), call 310-273-3220 or visit cesare-paciotti.us. **Bag** by *Fendi*, at Fendi Boutique nationwide. **Brooches** by *Tiffany & Co.*, at Tiffany & Co. nationwide. **Page 144: Dress** by *Lanvin*, \$17,625, at Barneys New York. **Sandals** by *Sigerson Morrison*, call 212-219-3893 or visit sigersonmorrison.com. **Necklace** by *Josh Hickey*, visit joshhickey.com. **Page 146: Bracelets** by *Tous*, at Tous stores nationwide. **Boot** by *Jimmy Choo*, call 866-J-CHOO-US. **Bag** by *Chanel*, call 800-550-0005. **Vest** by *Emilio Pucci*, at Emilio Pucci stores nationwide. **Page 150: Shirt** by *Undercover*, at Susan (San Francisco, Burlingame, CA), call 650-347-0452. **Shirt** by *Etro*, at Etro (NYC, Manhasset, NY; Coral Gables, FL; Las Vegas; Beverly Hills), call 212-317-9096. **Bikini** by *Shay Todd*, call 323-655-3760 or visit shaytodd.com. **Pins** by *Giorgio Armani*, call 212-988-9191. **Tote** by *Old Navy*, call 800-OLD-NAVY or visit oldnavy.com. **Key ring** by *Mulberry*, at Mulberry (NYC, Manhasset, NY; Atlantic City; L.A.), call 888-685-6856. **Trousers** by *Diesel*, at Diesel (NYC, L.A.), call 877-433-4373 or visit diesel.com. **Page 152: Dress** by *Old Navy*, at Old Navy stores nationwide, call 800-OLD-NAVY. **Ring** by *John Hardy*, visit johnhardy.com. **Bag** by *Escada*, call 800-869-8424 or visit escada.com. **Sandal** by *L'Autre Chose*, at the Shoe Box (Plainview, NY), call 516-931-7775 or visit shopheshoebox.com. **Bag** by *True Religion*, at True Religion Brand Jeans stores nationwide, call 866-427-1119. **Page 156: Cuffs** by *Marni*, at Marni (NYC; Costa Mesa, L.A.), visit marni.com. **Skirt** by *Dries van Noten*, similar styles at Jeffrey (NYC). **Sandal** by *Sergio Rossi*, at Sergio Rossi (NYC), call 212-956-3304 or visit sergiorossi.com. **Tote** by *Salvatore Ferragamo*, call 800-628-8916. **Page 158: Bag** by *Roger Vivier*, \$9,100, call 212-861-5371. **Bikini** by *Araks*, call 212-473-2478 or visit thelittleflirt.com. **Wedge** by *Giuseppe Zanotti Design*, at Giuseppe Zanotti Design Boutique (NYC; Costa Mesa, CA), call 714-979-3300 or visit giuseppezanotti-design.com. **Top, dress, belts** by *Alessandro Dell'Acqua*, at Alessandro Dell'Acqua Boutique (NYC), call 212-253-6861. **Top** by *Koi Suwannagate*, collection at Wendy Foster (Santa Barbara, CA), call 805-565-1506 or visit wendyfoster.com. **Wedge** by *Giorgio Armani*, at Giorgio Armani Boutique nationwide or call 212-988-9191. **Page 160: Bag** by *Giorgio Armani*, \$7,995, call 212-988-9191. **Gown** by *Diane von Furstenberg*, call 646-486-4800. **Earrings** by *H.Stern*, \$5,400, call 800-7-H-STERM or visit hstern.net. **Bag** by *Hollywood*, at Hollywood (NYC). **Bikini** by *Pitahya Swimsuits*, visit vogueette.com. **Swimsuit** by *Emilio Pucci*, visit emiliopucci.com.

## BURNING UP

**Page 279: Blazer** by *Nathan Jenden*, visit nathanjenden.com. **Bra** by *Deborah Marquit*, at Deborah Marquit (NYC), call 212-478-3092 or visit deborahmarquit.com. **Jeans** by *J Brand*, visit jbrandjeans.com. **Hat** by *Stephen Jones Millinery*, visit stephenjonesmillinery.com. **Necklace, ring** by *Neil Lane Jewelry*, at Neil Lane (L.A.), call 310-275-5015.



## FORCE OF NATURE

**Page 281: Bra** by *Deborah Marquit*, at Deborah Marquit (NYC), call 212-478-3092 or visit [deborahmarquit.com](http://deborahmarquit.com). **Hat** by *Stephen Jones Millinery*, visit [stephenjonesmillinery.com](http://stephenjonesmillinery.com). **Pages 282-283: Waistcoat** by *Dior*, call 212-931-2950. **Top** by *Phi*, at Phi (NYC), visit [phicollection.com](http://phicollection.com). **Hat** by *Stephen Jones Millinery*, visit [stephenjonesmillinery.com](http://stephenjonesmillinery.com). **Briefs** by *Dolce & Gabbana*, at select Dolce & Gabbana Boutique nationwide. **Ring** by *Neil Lane Jewelry*, at Neil Lane (L.A.), call 310-275-5015. **Pumps** by *Dior*, at Dior (Beverly Hills). **Page 285: Sweater** by *Halston*, visit [halston.com](http://halston.com). **Bra** by *Deborah Marquit*, at Deborah Marquit (NYC), call 212-478-3092 or visit [deborahmarquit.com](http://deborahmarquit.com). **Hat** by *Stephen Jones Millinery*, visit [stephenjonesmillinery.com](http://stephenjonesmillinery.com). **Ring** by *Neil Lane Jewelry*, at Neil Lane (L.A.), call 310-275-5015. **Boots** by *Miu Miu*, similar styles at select Miu Miu Boutique nationwide, call 888-977-1900. **Page 286: Top** by *Gucci*, call 800-456-7663 or visit [gucci.com](http://gucci.com). **Bra** by *Deborah Marquit*, at Deborah Marquit (NYC), call 212-478-3092 or visit [deborahmarquit.com](http://deborahmarquit.com). **Earrings, ring** by *Neil Lane Jewelry*, at Neil Lane (L.A.), call 310-275-5015. **Pumps** by *Gucci*, at select Gucci stores nationwide, call 800-456-7663 or visit [gucci.com](http://gucci.com). **Pages 288-289: Shirt** by *Francesco Scognamiglio*, call 212-302-5470. **Bra** by *Deborah Marquit*, at Deborah Marquit (NYC), call 212-478-3092 or visit [deborahmarquit.com](http://deborahmarquit.com). **Briefs** by *Stella McCartney*, at Stella McCartney (NYC, L.A.). **Hat** by *Stephen Jones Millinery*, visit [stephenjonesmillinery.com](http://stephenjonesmillinery.com). **Boa** from *The Way We Wore*, L.A., visit [thewaywewore.com](http://thewaywewore.com). **Tights** by *Capezio*, visit [capeziodance.com](http://capeziodance.com). **Pages 290-291: T-shirt** by *Neal Sperling*, visit [nealsperling.com](http://nealsperling.com). **Bra** by *Deborah Marquit*, at Deborah Marquit (NYC), call 212-478-3092 or visit [deborahmarquit.com](http://deborahmarquit.com). **Belt** by *Yves Saint Laurent*, call 212-980-2970. **Gloves** by *Rodarte*, visit [rodarte.net](http://rodarte.net). **Tights** by *Capezio*, visit [capeziodance.com](http://capeziodance.com). **Pumps** by *Pierre Hardy*, collection at Barneys New York. **Pages 292-293: Shirt** by *Alexander McQueen*, call 212-645-1797. **Bra** by *Deborah Marquit*, at Deborah Marquit (NYC), call 212-478-3092 or visit [deborahmarquit.com](http://deborahmarquit.com). **Briefs** by *Dolce & Gabbana*, at select Dolce & Gabbana Boutique nationwide. **Ring** by *Neil Lane Jewelry*, at Neil Lane (L.A.), call 310-275-5015. **Pumps** by *Gucci*, at select Gucci stores nationwide, call 800-456-7663 or visit [gucci.com](http://gucci.com).

## BALANCING ACT

**Page 308: Bag** by *Giorgio Armani*, call 212-988-9191. **Clutch** by *Calvin Klein Collection*, call 212-292-9000. **Page 309: Bag** by *Dior*, call 800-929-DIOR. **Pump** by *Bottega Veneta*, call 877-362-1715 or visit [bottegapv.com](http://bottegapv.com). **Page 310: Tote bag** by *Donna Karan Collection*, call 866-240-4700. **Pump** by *Emporio Armani*, visit [emporioarmani.com](http://emporioarmani.com). **Page 311: Boot, bag** by *Ralph Lauren Collection*, visit [ralphlauren.com](http://ralphlauren.com).

## SWEPT AWAY

**Page 312-313: Gown** by *Jean Paul Gaultier*, to special order through Jean Paul Gaultier (Paris). **Cuffs** by *Robert Lee Morris*, at Robert Lee Morris Gallery (NYC), call 212-431-9405 or visit [robertleemorris.com](http://robertleemorris.com). **Cuffs** by *Chanel*, at Chanel Boutique nationwide, call 800-550-0005. **Sandals** by *Paul Smith*, at Paul Smith (NYC), call 646-613-3060. **Page 314: Jacket** by *Balenciaga* by *Nicolas Ghesquière*, \$5,950, at Balenciaga Boutique (NYC). **Dress**

by *Stella McCartney*, \$4,995, at Stella McCartney (NYC, L.A.). **Bangles, cuff** by *Patricia Von Musulin*, call 800-243-5596 or visit [pvmonline.com](http://pvmonline.com). **Cuff** by *Stephen Dweck*, at Bergdorf Goodman (NYC). **Necklace** by *Subversive Jewelry* by *Justin Giunta*, visit [subversivejewelry.com](http://subversivejewelry.com). **Page 315: Dress, belt** by *Donna Karan Collection*, at Donna Karan Collection stores nationwide, call 866-240-4700. **T-shirt** by *Edun*, visit [shopbop.com](http://shopbop.com). **Vest** by *Emporio Armani*, visit [emporioarmani.com](http://emporioarmani.com). **Bangles** by *Frank Gehry for Tiffany & Co.*, call 800-526-0649 or visit [tiffany.com](http://tiffany.com). **Bangle** by *John Hardy*, call 888-838-3022 or visit [johnhardy.com](http://johnhardy.com). **Bangle** by *Alexis Bittar for Michael Kors*, at Alexis Bittar (NYC), call 212-625-8340 or visit [alexisbittar.com](http://alexisbittar.com). **Bangle** by *Patricia Von Musulin*, call 800-243-5596 or visit [pvmonline.com](http://pvmonline.com). **Necklaces** by *TEM*, visit [temjewelry.com](http://temjewelry.com). **Page 316: Dress** by *Jil Sander*, \$4,580, at Jil Sander (NYC, Chicago), call 212-838-6100. **T-shirt** by *Organic*, collection at Henry Lehr (East Hampton, NY; Westport, CT), call 203-226-9772. **Necklace** by *John Hardy*, call 888-838-3022 or visit [johnhardy.com](http://johnhardy.com). **Cuff** by *Robert Lee Morris*, at Robert Lee Morris Gallery (NYC), call 212-431-9405 or visit [robertleemorris.com](http://robertleemorris.com). **Bangle** by *Burberry Prorsum*, visit [burberry.com](http://burberry.com). **Page 317: Dress** by *Osklen*, at Osklen (NYC), call 212-219-8250. **Vest** by *Proenza Schouler*, at Ikram (Chicago), call 312-587-1000. **Jacket dress** by *Pleats Please Issey Miyake*, at Pleats Please (NYC), call 212-226-3600. **Cardigan** by *Carolina Herrera*, at Carolina Herrera (NYC, Dallas, L.A.). **Necklace** by *Giles & Brother* by *Philip Crangi*, call 212-643-0517. **Necklace** by *Gucci*, at Gucci stores nationwide, call 800-456-7663. **Pendant** by *Carrera y Carrera*, \$25,925, call 800-CYC-8229 or visit [carreraycarrera.com](http://carreraycarrera.com). **Cuffs** by *Emporio Armani*, visit [emporioarmani.com](http://emporioarmani.com). **Cuffs** by *Chanel*, at Chanel Boutique nationwide, call 800-550-0005. **Page 318: Dress** by *Diane von Furstenberg*, similar styles at Intermix stores nationwide, visit [intermixonline.com](http://intermixonline.com). **Necklace** by *Giles & Brother* by *Philip Crangi*, call 212-643-0517. **Necklace** by *Paloma Picasso for Tiffany & Co.*, \$4,600, call 800-526-0649 or visit [tiffany.com](http://tiffany.com). **Bangles** by *Patricia Von Musulin*, call 800-243-5596 or visit [pvmonline.com](http://pvmonline.com). **Bangles** by *R.J. Graziano*, visit [rjgraziano.com](http://rjgraziano.com). **Page 319: Dress** by *Chloé*, \$4,775, at Chloé Boutique (NYC; Bal Harbour, FL; Costa Mesa, CA), call 212-717-8220. **Vest** by *Cavern*, at Oak (NYC, Brooklyn), call 212-677-1293. **Belt** (sold with dress) by *Donna Karan Collection*, \$3,495, at Donna Karan Collection stores nationwide, call 866-240-4700. **Bracelets** by *Giles & Brother* by *Philip Crangi*, visit [shopbop.com](http://shopbop.com). **Bangles** by *Patricia von Musulin*, call 800-243-5596 or visit [pvmonline.com](http://pvmonline.com). **Bangle** by *Erickson Beamon*, call 646-619-6818. **Bangle** by *Alexis Bittar for Michael Kors*, at Michael Kors (NYC). **Cuffs** by *Robert Lee Morris*, at Robert Lee Morris Gallery (NYC), call 212-431-9405 or visit [robertleemorris.com](http://robertleemorris.com). **Boa** by *Nina Ricci*, visit [nina-ricci.fr](http://nina-ricci.fr). **Page 320: Dress** by *Rossella Tarabini* for *Anna Molinari*, visit [annamolinari.it](http://annamolinari.it). **Jacket** by *MaxMara*, at select MaxMara Boutique nationwide, call 866-MAX-MARA. **Necklace** by *Stephen Dweck*, at Bergdorf Goodman (NYC). **Belt** by *Subversive Jewelry* by *Justin Giunta*, visit [subversivejewelry.com](http://subversivejewelry.com). **Cuff, bangle** by *John Hardy*, call 888-838-3022 or visit [johnhardy.com](http://johnhardy.com). **Bangles** by *Frank Gehry for Tiffany & Co.*, call 800-526-0649 or visit [tiffany.com](http://tiffany.com). **Bangles** by *Alexis Bittar for Michael Kors*, at Alexis Bittar (NYC), call 212-625-8340 or visit [alexisbittar.com](http://alexisbittar.com). **Cuffs** by *Robert Lee Morris*, at Robert Lee Morris Gallery (NYC), call

212-431-9405 or visit [robertleemorris.com](http://robertleemorris.com). **Bangle** by *Patricia Von Musulin*, call 800-243-5596 or visit [pvmonline.com](http://pvmonline.com).

Prices are approximate. ELLE recommends that merchandise availability be checked with local stores.

## BEAUTY GUIDE

**Page 205: News:** By *Terry*, visit [byterry.com](http://byterry.com). *Jurlique*, visit [jurlique.com](http://jurlique.com). *Kiehl's*, visit [kiehl.com](http://kiehl.com). *Lulu Organics*, visit [luluorganicsnyc.com](http://luluorganicsnyc.com). *MD Skincare*, visit [mdskincare.com](http://mdskincare.com). *Philosophy*, visit [qvc.com](http://qvc.com). **Page 206: Spotlight: Argan Oil:** *ar457*, visit [ar457.com](http://ar457.com). *Aveda*, visit [aveda.com. \*Josie Maran\*, visit \[josiemarancosmetics.com. \\*Liz Earle\\*, visit \\[lizearle.com\\]\\(http://lizearle.com\\). \\*\\*Page 206: Top 5: Paraben-Free Body Lotions:\\*\\* \\*Aubrey Organics\\*, visit \\[aubrey-organics.com\\]\\(http://aubrey-organics.com\\). \\*Avalon Organics\\*, visit \\[avalonorganics.com. \\\*Burt's Bees\\\*, visit \\\[burtsbees.com. \\\\*Kiss My Face\\\\*, visit \\\\[kissmyfacewebstore.com\\\\]\\\\(http://kissmyfacewebstore.com\\\\). \\\\*REN\\\\*, visit \\\\[renskincare.com\\\\]\\\\(http://renskincare.com\\\\). \\\\*\\\\*Page 208: Insider: Little Miss Sunshine:\\\\*\\\\* \\\\*David Babaii\\\\*, visit \\\\[davidbabaii.com\\\\]\\\\(http://davidbabaii.com\\\\). \\\\*Juice Beauty\\\\*, visit \\\\[juicebeauty.com\\\\]\\\\(http://juicebeauty.com\\\\). \\\\*REN\\\\*, visit \\\\[renskincare.com. \\\\\*Stella McCartney\\\\\*, visit \\\\\[sephora.com\\\\\]\\\\\(http://sephora.com\\\\\). \\\\\*Stila\\\\\*, visit \\\\\[stilacosmetics.com\\\\\]\\\\\(http://stilacosmetics.com\\\\\). \\\\\*Weleda\\\\\*, visit \\\\\[usa.welada.com\\\\\]\\\\\(http://usa.welada.com\\\\\). \\\\\*\\\\\*Page 210: Green Stars:\\\\\*\\\\\* \\\\\*Aubrey Organics\\\\\*, visit \\\\\[aubrey-organics.com\\\\\]\\\\\(http://aubrey-organics.com\\\\\). \\\\\*Aveda\\\\\*, visit \\\\\[aveda.com\\\\\]\\\\\(http://aveda.com\\\\\). \\\\\*Aveeno\\\\\*, at drugstores. \\\\\*Dr. Hauschka\\\\\*, visit \\\\\[drhauschka.com\\\\\]\\\\\(http://drhauschka.com\\\\\). \\\\\*Giovanni\\\\\*, visit 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## TAURUS

(Apr 20–May 20)

A new moon in your sign on the 5th alongside your ruling planet, Venus, declares you class president, and you can do no wrong in the eyes of any beholder. Three planets invade your finance sector this month, so put your money where your mouth is and buy lipstick stock. And make sure you're maxing out on company benefits, like matched funds in your 401(k). If you don't know what that means, run, don't walk, to your HR department.

## GEMINI

(May 21–June 21)

When Mercury enters your sign on the 2nd, the power of your ruling planet inspires brilliance you never knew you had. Before Mars quits your money house on the 9th, do something daring or rash. Mercury retrogrades on the 26th, and you may fear all is lost, but not to worry: The planet rights itself three weeks later, just as a full moon lights up your relationship sector.

## CANCER

(June 22–July 22)

Mars abandons your sign on the 9th, but the good news is that the fiery planet then ignites your wealth corner. A full moon in your creativity zone on the 19th reminds you that you're more than a worker bee, so if you've neglected your artistic side, start from scratch with a journal or a sketch pad. If all else fails, grab a few shameless friends for some inspired karaoke.

## LEO

(July 23–Aug 22)

This month, turn your 9 to 5 into your dream job or, plan B, get a new one. Three planets and a new moon on the 5th make it impossible to sit tight. Mars, after two years away, enters your sign on the 9th to renew your energy and enthusiasm and sharpen your wit to a sardonic point. Belt-tightening Saturn in your money zone says ease off the spending.

## VIRGO

(Aug 23–Sept 22)

A business trip yields surprising benefits: Keep your eyes open and you'll learn something valuable about yourself. A new moon in this realm on the 5th offers something fresh in travel, freelance work, or education. Jupiter turns retrograde in your romance sphere on the 9th, so don't push for what's not forthcoming. Try to listen with an open heart.

## LIBRA

(Sept 23–Oct 23)

Your normal ambivalence melts in the heat of the passion that's bubbling up like magma inside of you. When a new moon falls in your sexual-love zone on top of love planet Venus on the 5th, you will have no choice but to take action. On the 9th, Mars exits your work quarters, giving you the time you need to make a decision. The better you know your heart, the easier it'll be.

## SCORPIO

(Oct 24–Nov 21)

Your twin beachheads of partnership and career are even safer havens this month, as four planets and a new moon activate these realms. On the 9th, Mars crosses your professional axis for the first time in two years, suggesting a shift (or competition). Meanwhile, your relationship gets a shot of testosterone and heats up to almost honeymoon levels.

## SAGITTARIUS

(Nov 22–Dec 21)

What you'll need: unlimited minutes on your cell, a valid passport, a sturdy duffel on wheels, and shoes for any occasion. Your spheres of work, partnership, and, after the 9th, travel are lit up like a Hollywood marquee. A new moon in your health arena on the 5th suggests a novel approach to eating—and drinking. Think juice, not getting juiced.

## CAPRICORN

(Dec 22–Jan 19)

You may lose your famous cool when a new moon lands smack on amorous Venus on the 5th and Mars blasts into your passion realm on the 9th. *Rationality* and *reason* are two nouns you can't buy vowels for this round. But if you can channel some of that power into work around the 20th, you will turn the right heads. Health becomes a priority and not just for weight-loss purposes.

## AQUARIUS

(Jan 20–Feb 18)

Quixotic Aquarians lead with the heart this month, but it wouldn't hurt to don some protective gear. Mars in your partnership zone on the 9th and Venus' entrance into the romance sector on the 24th will have you humming Van Morrison's "Crazy Love." But keep one eye on the long view. Elsewhere, your creative muse is working double, and, frankly, she'd like to see some results.

## PISCES

(Feb 19–Mar 20)

If you're at the let's-live-together stage, try to exercise a modicum of patience. Mercury goes retrograde on the 26th, and because it rules partnership and is in your domestic quarters this month, the message is loud and clear and sounds something like this: "Whoa, Nelly!" Stall and find distraction in creative pursuits. After the 9th, your health takes center stage, so renew that gym membership.

## ARIES

(Mar 21–Apr 19)

It's really true that you have to know when to fold 'em. Even with Jupiter lighting a fire in your work sector and three planets fanning the flames in your money house, all good things come to an end—or at least cool down. Jupiter retrogrades on the 9th, and those money planets move out by the 24th. Translation: Update your résumé and hold off the down payment on that rustic cottage.

For your personal daily forecast, visit [ELLE.com](http://ELLE.com).



Numerology uses the power of numbers to predict significant life cycles. Determine your personal number by adding the day and month of your birth date. Continue adding until you get a single digit. For example, if your birthday is May 13, your personal number is  $5 + 13 = 18$ , and  $1 + 8 = 9$ , the personal number you'll keep for life. By Bridgett Walther

## 1

*Procrastination* is such a dirty word—especially with so much to accomplish. Create an environment that encourages concentration and minimizes distractions. Sure, you can think of 10,000 other fabulous things to do, but May is about finalizing business. Don't waste time and store calories from gratification binges—glue yourself to a task until it's done.

## 2

You don't make a big to-do about your secret Midas touch, but you've always been a maestro when it comes to financial and business decisions. This month, big deals find you easily, upping your chances of getting a raise—or selling property, stocks, and heirlooms that are taking up valuable space. Activate your courage and approach potential buyers or partners.

## 3

Live your beliefs and principles, and follow through on commitments. Streamline your schedule and choose your priorities with great care. Wrap your mind around a goal, relationship, or project, and leave the imprint of your exquisitely high standards all over it. Focus on what you do best: creating strategies that help others live fuller, more organized lives.

## 4

No more delays: Launch a project you've been perfecting for ages. Stop searching for hairline cracks in your work; allow others to examine it. Bravely reveal what you've done, and remember that others may find fault with your work—they have opinions, just like you. Speak up and respectfully explain your position. You might be able to enlighten a few skeptics.

## 5

Parties and pleasure dominate your list this month. It's difficult to refuse a spontaneous invitation for a weekend romp or pass up a late-night gathering with friends. Tap the brakes and think about what's not getting done while you're uncorking another bottle of champagne. Sometimes you sabotage your chance for success by putting temptations ahead of all else.

## 6

There's power in being unpredictable. If you're an early riser, this month you go out of your way to be nocturnal. Instead of sticking to a safe routine, you explore a new interest, language, or relationship with someone who's not your type. Surprise those who have cemented their expectations of you—and more importantly, surprise *yourself*—with a new passion.

## 7

No self-doubt allowed—it's now or never, Seven! You've put in the time and preparation; you've checked your facts and gathered reams of expert opinions, yet you still worry that you may flub a crucial detail. Odds of that happening are slim, so relax. You know more than anyone about what you're doing, so get out of your own way and unveil your masterpiece.

## 8

You have a swagger in your walk and boldly stare down competitors, making them wilt. You approach challenges as sport. Don't waste time on small deals or low-stakes competitions—aim sky-high. Take a risk that feels as unnatural as a bungee jump off a high bridge. The more you put on the line, the bigger the payoff and personal reward.

## 9

Put an end to your rep of being too nice to refuse anyone and just say no to random requests for your input and resources. In fact, go ahead and make “no” your battle cry. You've covered for others' uninspired performances; but now that you're part of something spectacular, encourage others to start saying yes to *your* requests, and cash in some of the favors owed you.

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# ASHTON, UN-PUNK'D

Yes, Ashton Kutcher really *is* the parenting powerhouse his antic-filled, "dude"-heavy days all but precluded. And, as **Andrew Goldman** found out, he's Moored for life

Y ou've been in a coma since 2003 and just woke up? Well, I've got shocking news about Ashton Kutcher, the lanky kid from *That '70s Show* and *Punk'd*. He married Demi Moore...yes, *that* Demi Moore.... And yes, I'm quite serious, but no, I'm not going to go out and buy a stack of Bibles to swear on.... Fine, I will swear on my mother's life *and* this stack of Bibles that I'm not pulling your recently comatose leg.... Yes, I initially thought it was "freaky-deaky" too, but they've shown themselves to be totally devoted to one another and kabbalah.... I really have no idea what Jewish mystics would have to say about *Dude, Where's My Car?*.... No, I'm pretty sure Bruce Willis hasn't once tried to rip Ashton's heart from his chest and shove it down his throat.... And no, Ashton hasn't devoted his life to blowing his wife's *G.I. Jane* money. In fact, this month he's starring with Cameron Diaz in a comedy called *What Happens in Vegas*.

ELLE: What can you tell me about your first time?

ASHTON KUTCHER: I was 15. It was out in the woods, and it was horrible.

ELLE: Why? Was it with a deer?

AK: No, it was a girl I had just met who my buddy set me up with. The whole thing lasted, like, two seconds. It was really awkward.

ELLE: And was this the first and last time for you two?

AK: No, actually, two years later I had sex with her again just to show her the first performance was a fluke and I'd gotten better.

ELLE: If, God forbid, you were shot by a robber, turned into a ghost, and came back to communicate with your wife, how would you show her you were in the room?

AK: I'm actually convinced that she'd be able to see me. I wouldn't have to push a penny up the wall or anything. She would just know.

ELLE: And what song is playing on the soundtrack as your ghost comes to her? Do you have a song?

AK: It's really embarrassing, but yes. It would be the "remix to 'Ignition,'" the R. Kelly song.

ELLE: I don't know how it goes. Could you sing a few bars?

AK: [Singing] "It's the remix to ignition, hot and fresh out the kitchen, mama rollin' that body, got every man in here wishin'...." That song.

ELLE: You've said that when you first met Demi, you conversed for a half hour without realizing who she was.

AK: I didn't recognize her, no.

ELLE: I prepared a quiz to see if you've boned up on her work. On what show she did she play ace reporter Jackie Templeton?

AK: *General Hospital*.

ELLE: Correct. What film did she make that was based on a David Mamet play?

AK: Uh, give me another hint.

ELLE: The play was called *Sexual Perversity in Chicago*.

AK: No, I don't know.

ELLE: That was *About Last Night*.

AK: With what's-his-name, right?

Kutcher

ELLE: Rob Lowe?

AK: Yeah, Rob Lowe. One of my catering guys pulled me into his trailer and showed me the shower scene once. I was like, "Dude, why are you showing me this?"

ELLE: Does it bother you to see Demi with other men?

AK: In real life, I'm not jealous. But I can't cope with watching her with another guy on film. As an actor, I know that any feelings you're showing are manufactured. But I still don't want to fool my mind into thinking she's into another guy.

ELLE: What has having three teenage stepdaughters taught you?

AK: I've learned how to talk to a kid about sex and drugs—pot in particular.

ELLE: So, enlighten us. How does one talk to young girls about sex and drugs?

AK: You can't try to conceal any of your own history. Because when they find out about it, you become a liar. So I was honest. I said, "You're not going to die." But I also told them that I have a lot of friends who I used to smoke pot with, and a lot of them are still just hanging out smoking pot.

ELLE: What prompted the sex talk?

AK: I knew that one of the girls had had sex and hadn't really talked to all of us about it, so I wanted to create an open forum for her. So over Christmas last year, we had a conversation about sex—all of us except Tallulah, the youngest.

ELLE: So let me get this straight. Around this table were you, your wife, Bruce Willis, and the two girls...

AK: ...and one boyfriend was there.

ELLE: Did this boyfriend try to crawl under the table?

AK: No. He was fine. I'd already had conversations with him.

ELLE: Jeez—things happen differently in your family.

AK: Yeah, it's uncomfortable to talk about it, but I won't let my discomfort get in the way of them doing the right thing.

ELLE: You've said that you're frequently asked to comment on Demi's outfits before you go out. Have you developed your own tastes or feelings about women's clothing?

AK: I like a high boot on a girl. Whenever Demi wears them, I'm like, that is *so* hot. And I learned what a Birkin bag is from the price tag. You'll never forget what it is once you've paid for one.

ELLE: Before you got married, you were spending a lot of time with Sean Combs, who has a reputation as a great ladies' man. Did he offer you any advice about women?

AK: Not any advice that I listened to.



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